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COST REDUCTION PROGRAMS

OF A

NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION FIRM



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE (Department of Political Economy)

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that we have read this thesis entitled "Cost Reduction Programs Of A Natural Gas Distribution Firm", submitted by D. Howard Minchin in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta.



THESIS 1956 # 13

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

(Department of Political Economy)

A Thesis

COST REDUCTION PROGRAMS

OF A

NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION FIRM

Submitted in partial fulfilment

of the

requirements for the degree of

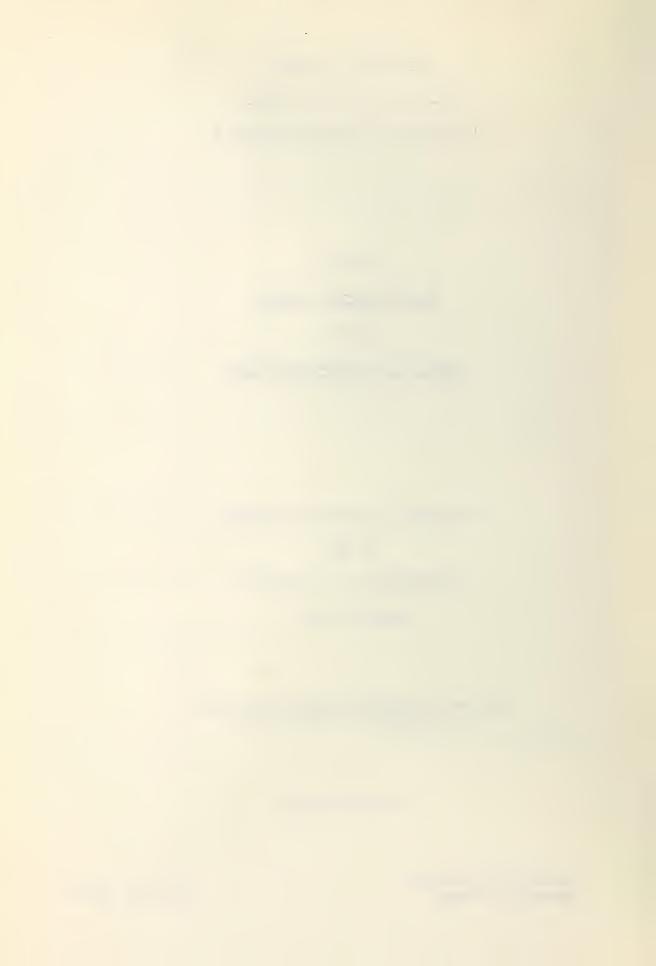
Master of Arts

(Master's Program: six graduate courses in addition to this thesis)

by

D. Howard Minchin

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta.



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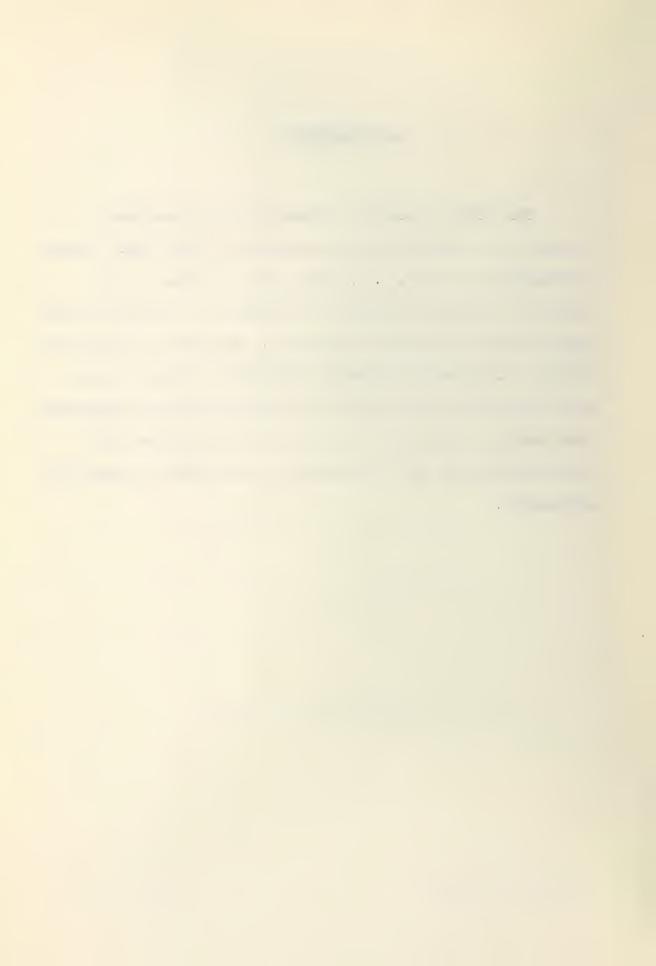
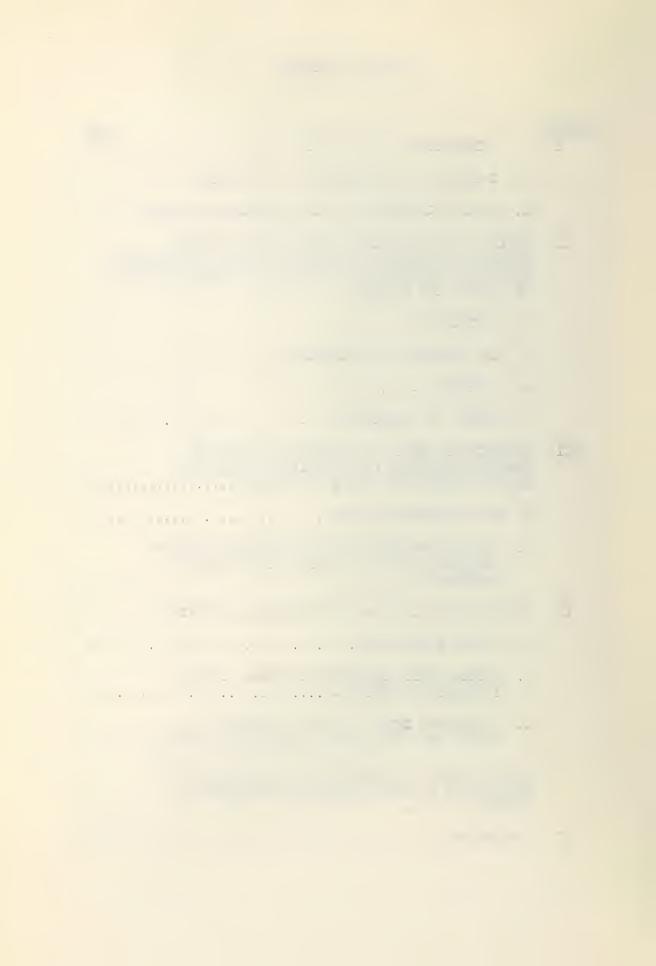


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COST REDUCTION PROGRAMS OF A NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTING FIRM

CHAPTER 1

A. Orientation

The economist is concerned primarily with the use of productive resources, and with the effects which particular procedures may have upon the economic use of these resources. This concept can be applied to the use of resources on an international or national scale and it can also be applied to the use of resources by an individual firm. This thesis is mainly concerned with the economic use of manpower, equipment and material in selected operations of a public utility.

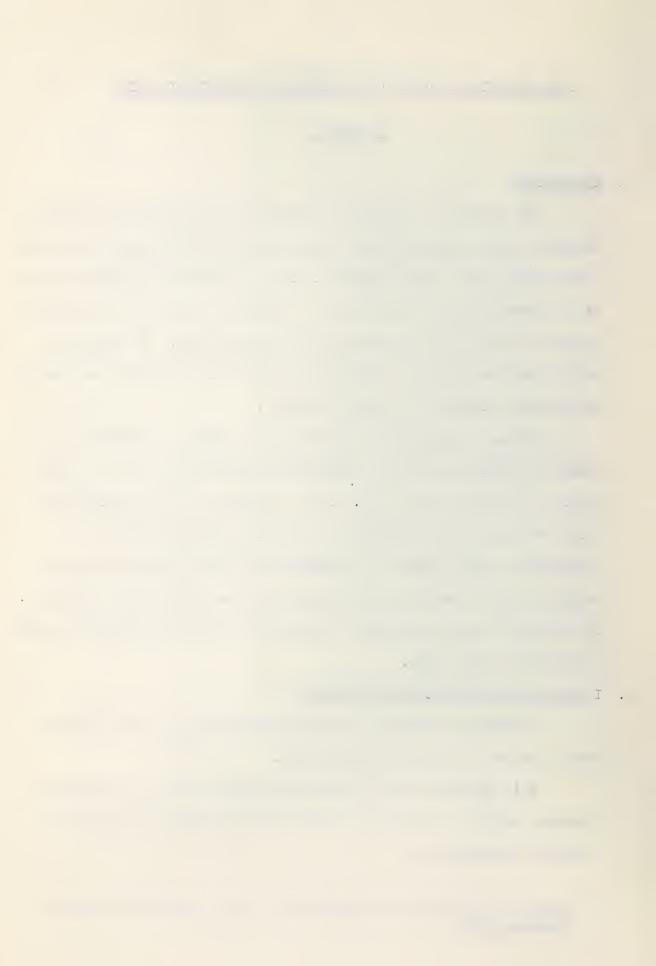
Before a comprehensive cost-reduction study is undertaken of a selected operation, it must be established that the work will, in fact, result in a saving to the firm. This is accomplished by a preliminary survey to estimate the present and projected operating costs, the installation costs likely to be incurred, the cost of time of persons making the study, and the probable savings, both tangible and intangible. The savings in one year usually is expected to more than offset the costs arising out of the study.

B. Incentives To Reduce Costs Of Operation

A number of forces are at work inducing public utility management to strive for lower operating costs.

(a) Regulatory bodies generally recognize that, in the public interest, methods of regulation should include effective inducement to efficient management. 1/

^{1/} Board of Public Utility Commissioners of the Province of Alberta. Decision 1922



- (b) Competition from alternative fuels or from other companies, for example in Edmonton where the natural gas franchise does not include the industrial consumers, is a genuine source of incentive to reduce operating costs.
- (c) A small, almost unnoticeable trend to adverse public opinion will precipitate the quick action of a sensitive management. One or two "letters to the editor" pointing out the wasteful work habits of construction or maintenance crews usually results in remedial actions, precipitated, in part, by the privately owned public utility's fear of public ownership. The sensitivity of public utility management to public opinion is also demonstrated by the generally lower wage level than in other similar industries.
- (d) The morale of most employees is directly related to their opportunity to do a reasonable day's work. The provision of that opportunity for each employee by a cost conscious management contributes to the efficiency of the company's operations by encouraging a higher daily work output per employee and at the same time induces good morale.
- (e) Some franchises provide an option to purchase by the municipal authority. Such clauses induce reasonable operating costs.
- (f) Rate hearings are crises in the lives of utilities which are to be avoided if possible because of their high cost and diversion of effort of key personnel. An effective way to avoid them is to reduce operating costs consistent with adequate service.

A cost reduction program is initiated by top management which directs a department working in a staff capacity to investigate situations of suspected high costs and to evolve remedial methods and procedures. Under conditions of rapid growth high cost situations can be expected to develop, perhaps more frequently than when growth is slower



and steadier. Situations of high or increasing costs may be detected by comparing the unit costs of the operation under review with comparable firms; or by discovering by analyzing internal records, operations of increasing unit costs over a number of years, taking into consideration increases in wage rates and the cost of materials.

· C. Basic Philosophy Of A Cost Reduction Program

The objectives of a cost reduction program are positive. It is not a "speed-up" campaign aimed at getting employees to work at an unreasonable pace.

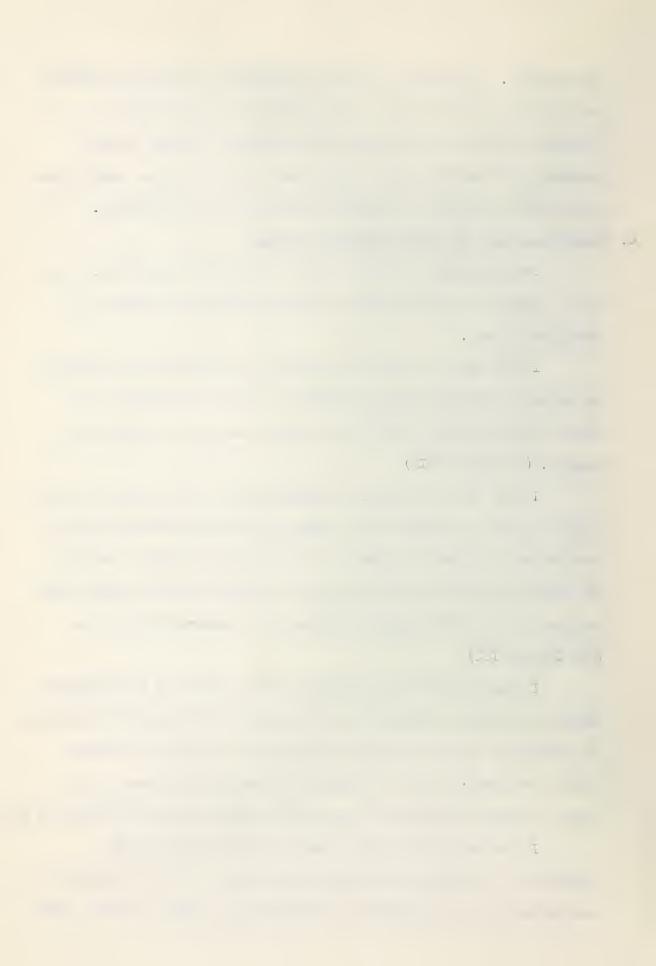
In the case of a study of records, the objective is to simplify and adjust the record keeping procedure in order to facilitate the actual work which they record and to reduce the cost of keeping the records. (See Chapter II)

room of a firm, the study aims to improve the service which the stockroom renders to other departments of the company in order to minimize
the loss of productive man hours and at the same time reduce the operating cost of the service department when it is reasonable to do so.

(See Chapter III)

In the case of crew operations, the objective is to distinguish between the factors affecting the efficiency of the crew which are beyond the control of the crew foreman and the factors which are within his control; to develop better job methods and supervisory procedures in order to promote operational economy and personnel morale. (See Chapter IV)

In the case of the participation of supervisors in the preparation of operating and maintenance budgets, it is a campaign to familiarize the line supervisors with thinking in terms of a full year's



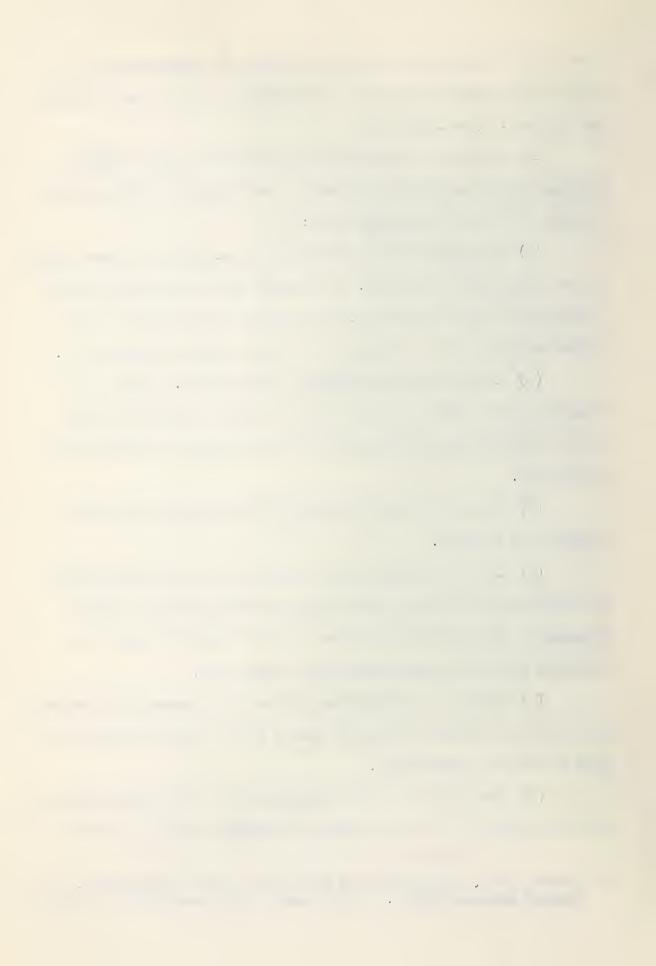
activity and to develop the concept that they are responsible for the most advantageous employment of each member of their staff throughout the year. (See Chapter V)

The solution to a problem in cost reduction usually requires thinking beyond the established areas of past experience. The process involves these five fundamental steps: 2/

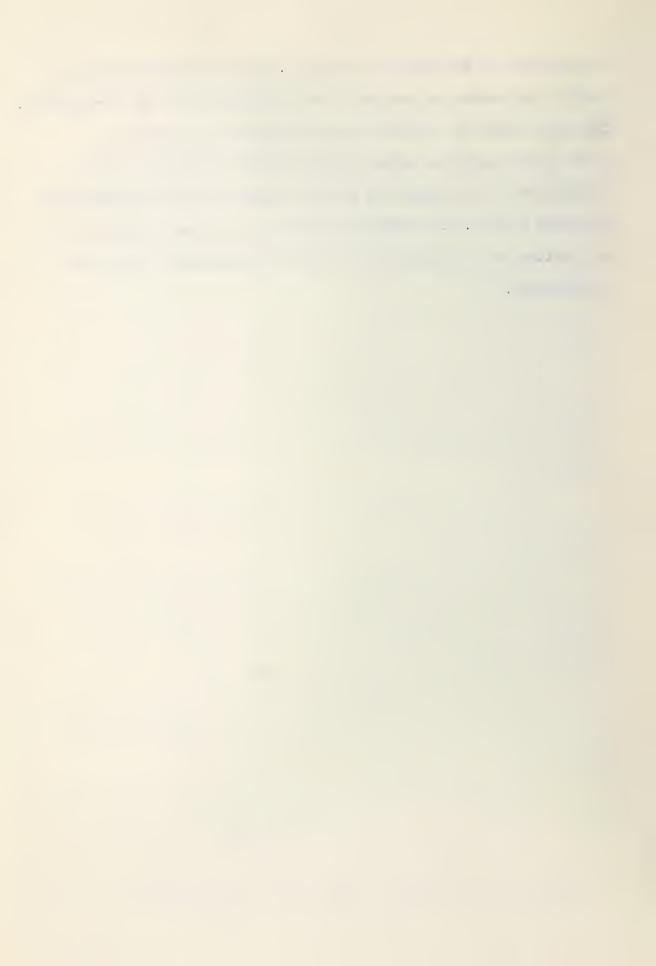
- (a) Recognition of the problem and subsequently, a clear concept of the objectives of the study. The analyst must continually keep his objectives in mind, otherwise he will dissipate his energies in areas beyond the scope of the problem, or will never reach the heart of it.
- (b) Gather the data pertinent to the problem. Again, the objectives must be kept clearly in mind in order to gather that data which is pertinent and to appreciate the significance of various parts of the data.
- (c) Concentrate upon the data with the conscious mind and search for a solution.
- (d) If the conscious mind is unable to cope with the problem, the subconscious mind may supply solutions during periods of mental relaxation. It is important to keep a notebook handy, because the solutions which the subconscious offers are elusive.
- (e) Verify, in consultation with others concerned with the work, the solutions obtained and present them in a form which can and will be used by the line organization.
- (f) The work of a staff organization in devising improvements will be fruitless if it is not clearly recognized that only the line

^{2/} Randall, F.D. "Stimulate Your Executives to Think Creatively".

Harvard Business Review. Vol.33, No.4 July-August 1955 pp.122-128



organization can put changes into effect. Thus the approach which is used in introducing the changes to the line organization is all-important. The study should be conducted from the beginning on a basis of participation with line people and they must feel that they have contributed to the changes and that any criticism of old procedures has been made by them. This technique of participation and opportunity for self-criticism is essential to a "will for improvement" in the line organization.



CHAPTER II

Revision of the Office Procedure of Preparing Service
Applications and Service Orders to Facilitate the Actual
Work which they Record and Reduce the Cost of Keeping
the Records

A Definition:

A service application is a document which is completed by a representative of the Company and the applicant, arranging for a gas service to a house or other premises.

A service order is the form on which the installation of a service is authorized, recorded and priced.

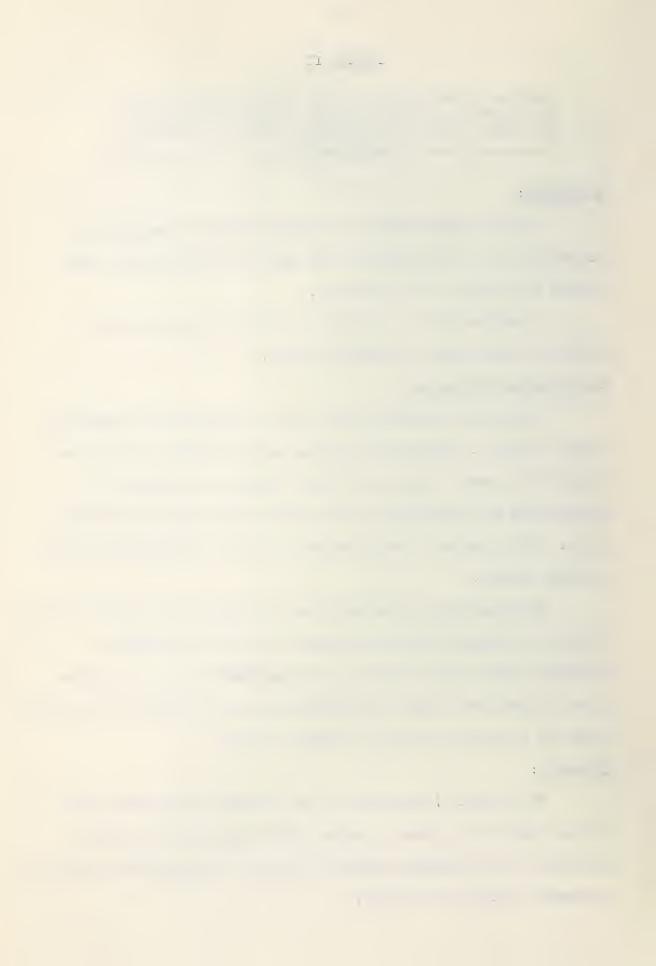
B. The Problems & Objectives:

Our northern climate causes a peak of construction completions late in the fall. Applications for gas service coincide with or lead slightly this peak. Delays may develop between the completion of applications and the receipt of the service order by the installation crews. Delays may also develop between the actual installation and the customer billing.

The objectives of the study are to simplify and adjust the office routine of processing these two documents in order to maintain a relatively smooth flow of work to the installation crews, to minimize delays between the receipt of the application and the issue of the service order and to minimize delays in customer billing.

C Procedure:

The booklet "Instruments for the Effective Utilization of the Process Analysis Work Sheet in Office Work Simplications Procedures" published by the Management Controls Division of Remington Rand, New York, recommends a method of analysis.



C Procedure (continued)

A careful procedure study of the existing routine is made in which the analyst begins with the beginning and follows the process through to the end. The flow of work to be analyzed begins when the customer requests the application clerk for gas service and supplies the information which the clerk enters in the application form. This is a hand posting operation. (See the Process Analysis Work Sheet, Illustration I). Then the clerk verifies the availability of gas by referring to maps of the distribution system. Because verification takes place, this action is classified as inspection. The listing of each step continues until the process is completely outlined and the totals computed as shown in Illustration I, Page 3.

There are occasions when it is difficult to classify definitely an action as to whether or not it is an operation, transportation, storage or an inspection. The following helps one to decide the proper classification:

Classification
Operation
Transportation
Storage
Inspection

Predominate Result
Produces or Accomplishes
Moves
Keeps
Verifies

After an accurate record of the steps in their exact sequence has been made on the Process Analysis Work Sheet a Flow Process Chart of the routine can be prepared. (See Illustration II) This chart graphically portrays the essential elements of the process and brings to light many previously unknown facts such as the unnecessarily complex credit approval procedure. Thus it is often the means of determining a better method of operation. In addition, in analyzing the original procedure, the analyst should determine why each operation, storage, transportation and inspection is done and decide if it is necessary. The preparation of the prospect

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C Procedure (continued)

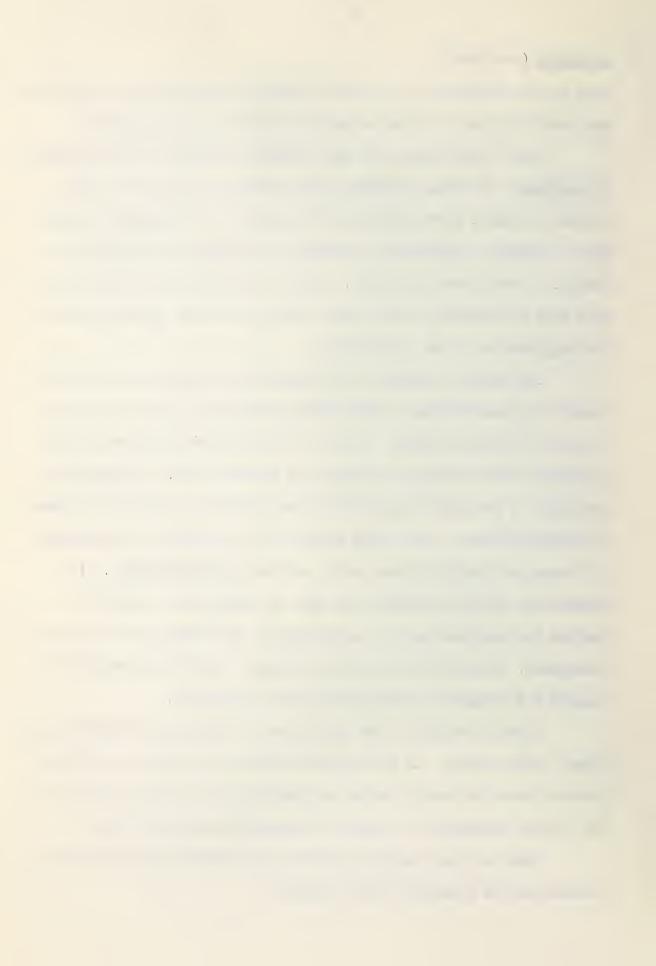
card and the handling of the service orders by the application clerks did not stand this test of being needed which led to their elimination.

After establishing that each remaining operation of the procedure is necessary, one should consider each operation in relation to the overall procedure to determine whether previous or succeeding processes may be changed to eliminate its necessity or whether it is possible to combine it with other operations. Control operations are vulnerable to this type of scrutiny, which in this study, led to the simplification of the registration of the applications.

The existing location of performing any operation should not be taken for granted because a questioning attitude may reveal duplication of work at different points, or lead to the discovery that work can be performed better or more economically at another point. The operations performed in the Distribution Office were transferred because they could be better performed in the Plant Records, thus avoiding an accumulation of "installed" service orders which resulted in billing delays. In determining the best location, the type of employee best suited to perform the operation and his qualifications and training must also be considered. Mentally active people should be assigned work requiring thought and judgment and not given routine assignments.

Careful checking of the method used to perform each operation may reveal excess motion. In the original procedure the curb box sheet was prepared after the service order was returned to the office whereas in the revised procedure it is typed as a copy of the service order.

There are four specific questions that serve as an acid test in determining the necessity of any operation.



C <u>Procedure</u> (continued)

Can it be eliminated?

Can it be combined?

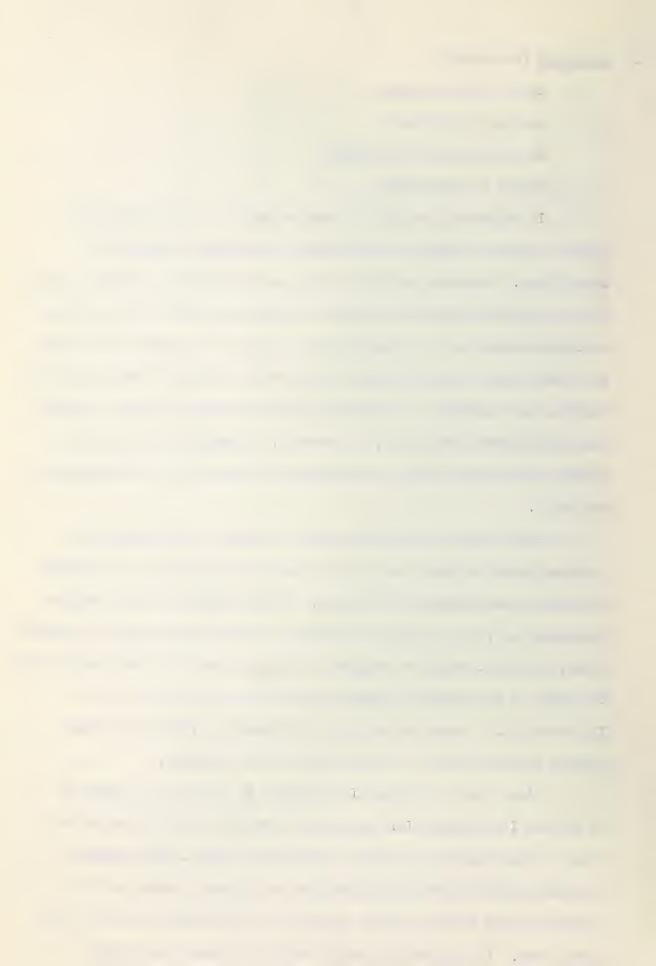
Can the sequence be changed?

Can it be simplified?

In endeavoring to attain these objectives, one should guard against the over emphasis of eliminating, combining, changing or simplifying. Unrelated records should not be combined; operations should not be eliminated without carefully checking the effect of such action; a sequence should not be changed at one point if it creates difficulties at another place; simplification should not be carried to the extent that controls are impaired. In addition, operations requiring quick thinking and good judgment should not, if possible, be merged with those of a routine nature and excessive responsibility should not be concentrated at one point.

The foregoing analytical guides were used in developing the proposed procedure which was revised, improved and verified in meetings with others associated with the work. To get a picture of the changes that were made, it is probably advisable to break the process into several parts, the first being the progress of the application to the credit clerk. The steps in the original process are listed in lines one to four of Illustration I. Lines one to five of Illustration III describe the revised procedure which is very similar to the original.

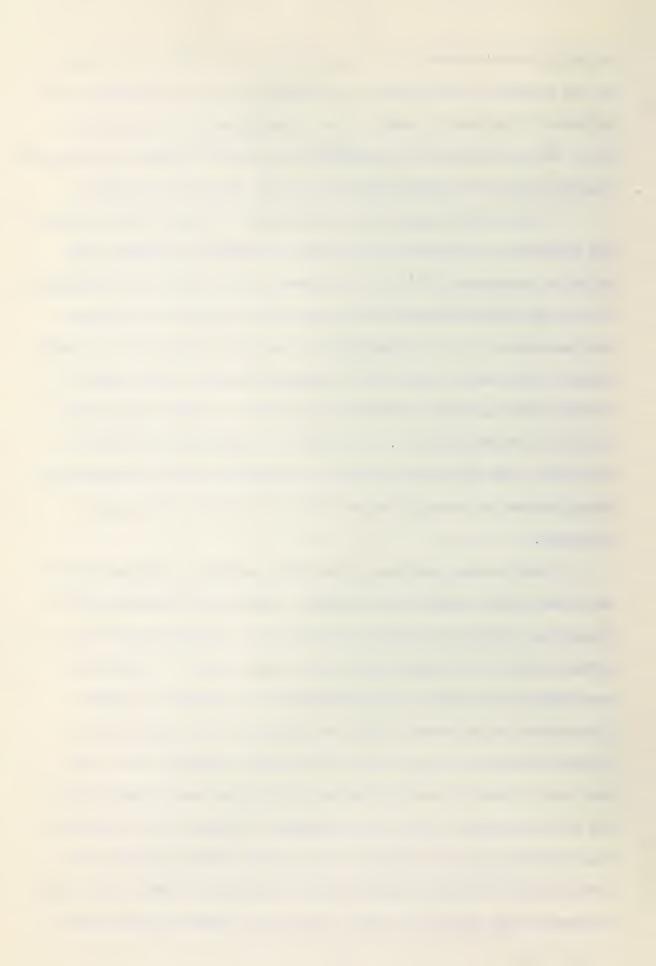
Lines five to nineteen Illustration I, page one and lines six to fifteen Illustration III, page one, record the original and revised route of the applications to the Plant Records clerk. The number of operations were reduced from thirty-one to eighteen, mainly due to simplifying the credit approval procedure by eliminating the use of the credit card. It was used as control device to record the payment



of the customer's deposit and is replaced by the credit clerk noting on the application the details of prepayment, or if no prepayment, the initials of the credit manager. The revised procedure eliminated the delay caused by holding the application for checking against the duplicate counter slip which recorded that the customer had paid his deposit.

Also contributing to the simplification process is the routing of all applications directly to the typist who types the premises cards, which are subsequently used as a permanent record of meter installations, but in the revised procedure the premises cards replace the prospect card as a device to record applications held for credit or mains installation. This card is also used to record the service order number to indicate that the service order has been typed, a function previously filled by the prospect card. By routing all applications directly to the typist, the applications ready for installation are not delayed by being returned to the application clerk as occurred in the original procedure.

Line twenty, page one to line nine, page two, of Illustration I and line sixteen, page one to line four, page two of Illustration III record the original and revised procedure up to the delivery of the service order to the installation foreman. The number of operations were reduced from thirty-four to twenty-two by a number of changes. The application and service order are numbered by the Plant Records clerk rather than the application by the Sales Department clerk, and the service order by the Plant Records clerk. The service order, curb box sheet and copy in the revised procedure are typed in one operation, thus eliminating the filling-in of the curb box sheet by hand. The service order is routed directly to the installation foreman rather than returned to the application clerk. The service order and application

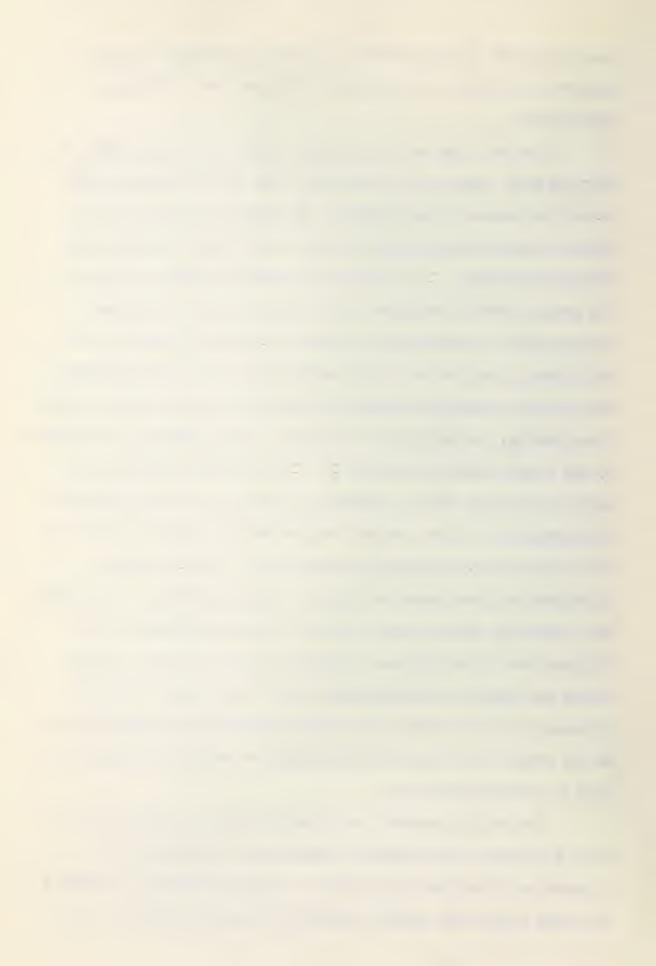


are not returned to the application clerk in the revised procedure because the statistics for which they were used were eliminated as unnecessary.

Line ten, page two to line nine, page three of Illustration I and line five, page two to line sixteen, page two of Illustration III record the balance of the procedure. The number of operations were reduced from forty-six to thirty-three, mainly due to by-passing the Distribution Office. In the revised procedure the flimsy or copy of the service order is destroyed after matching with the "installed" service order as compared with recording the date of installation on the flimsy, a duplication of work carried out by the Sales Department. The production controls kept jointly by the Distribution Office and the Plant Records, were eliminated because they were ineffective and replaced by the scheme outlined in Chapter IV. In the revised procedure the services installed sheet is completed in the Plant Records rather than the Distribution Office, because their personnel are more qualified for that type of work. By-passing the Distribution Office entirely, eliminated the chief source of delay in billing customers. Also, routing the "installed" service orders direct to the Sales Department, who initiate meter installations, eliminated a cause of delay in setting meters and required a monthly rather than a daily summary of services installed to be forwarded to the Sales Department by the Plant Records. In the original procedure the daily summary of services installed were used to initiate meter sets.

The adopted procedure was presented to those actually carrying out the routines in the Manual of Operations. This manual is an elaboration of the Flow Process Chart - Adopted Procedure Illustration IV.

The right hand column records, chronologically, the operations, trans-



portations, storages, and inspections which are applied to the application and the service order. The left hand column records chronologically, in relation to the flow of the application and service order, other documents and control procedures which are essential to the routine.

The process of installing a service begins in the mind of the contractor who builds the structure to be served with gas and ends when the customer has been billed for the installation. This chapter deals with the record keeping portion of that process. The number of operations in the record keeping portion has been reduced from one hundred and fifteen to eighty by simplifying the credit approval, billing and other procedures, by eliminating duplication of subsidiary records in different offices, by reducing the number of times documents are handled and by eliminating unnecessary controls.



D Manual of Operation

Procedure For Service Application And Service Order Routine

(Assuming necessity of signed application and contract, and deposit)

Application prepared - at application

desk

- by salesmen

- by local agents

To include plan number only. Details re mains location to be put on here.

Availability of gas verified and house number on plan to indicate application received.

Also indicate on plan if application out for signature.

Application not approved because mains not installed, to Sales Department Typist

M.&J. Counter Bill

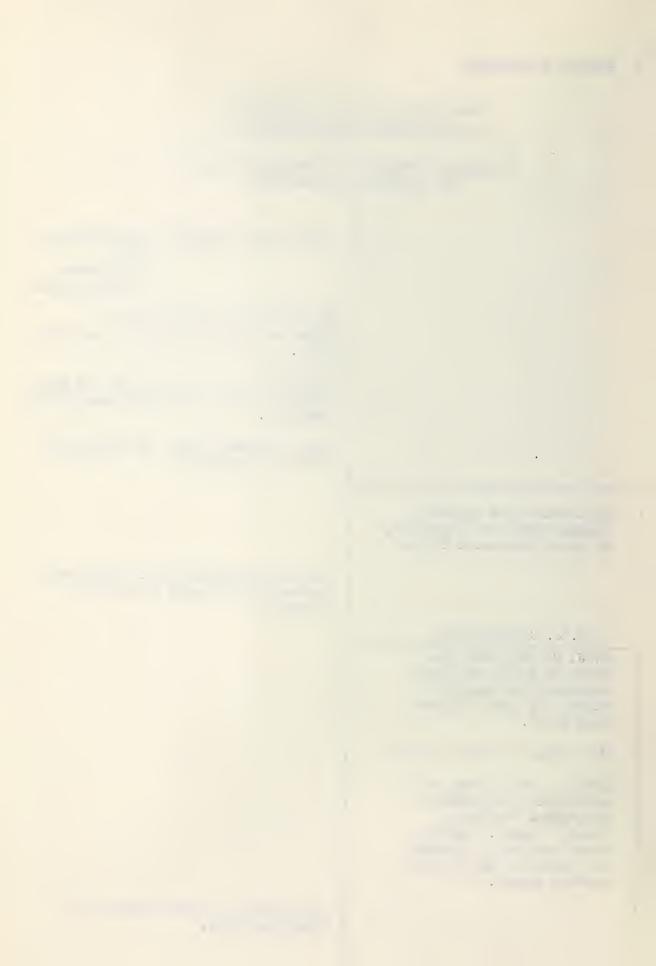
M.&J. Counter Bill prepared in duplicate where necessary for amount of deposit by credit department clerk.

To cashier via credit clerk

Credit clerk to note on application the details of prepayment including receipt number. Rubber stamp supplied to provide for amount of deposit and receipt number.

Application approved for installation to Credit Department Clerks via customer.

Application to Credit Manager for credit approval.



Premises Cards

Premises cards typed

To Sales record clerk

Premises cards red tabbed or blue tabbed to indicate held for credit or mains installation.

Cards filed geographically.

Application Tally Record

File number and information in register. Signs application on behalf of company.

All applications to Sales Department Typist.

All applications to Sales record clerk

Inspects application re credit and mains installation

Applications held for credit or mains installation returned to application desk.

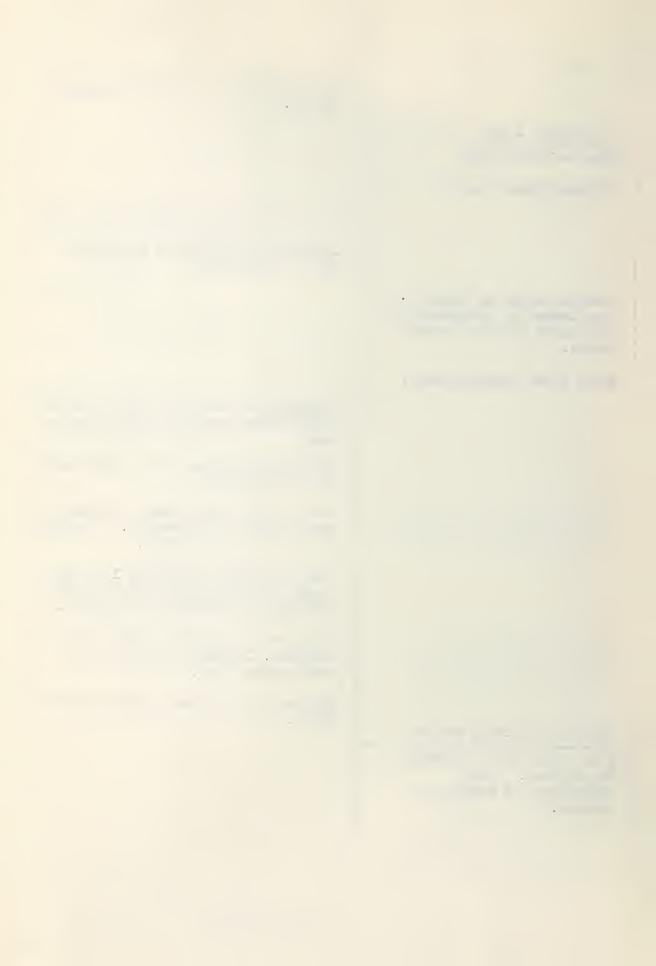
Applications approved for installation to Plant Records.

P.R. verifies plan number, location and size of main, and pressure. Also mark on curb box route number.

Also indicates location of I.P. and other gas mains and location of other utilities - telephone and electric.

Application and blank service order numbered. Cancelled numbers to be recorded and used.

Application returned to Sales Record Clerk.



Service Order and Curb Box Sheet with copy

Typed with information from application.

NOTE: S.O.'s to be transported to and from North Yard in expandable envelope equipped with latch, via mail courier, twice daily.

The envelope to be dispatched even if there are no Service Orders to be transported.

Application, blank service order, and premises card to Sales Department Typist for typing service order and curb box sheet with copy.

Service Order and curb box sheet to be given same number as application.

Amount of prepayment to be typed on Service Order. Also types Service Order number on premises card to record service order typed.

Application, Premises Card, Service Order, Curb Box Sheet and copy to Junior Sales Clerk to check typing accuracy.

Application temporarily filed by number.

Premises Cards temporarily filed by number.

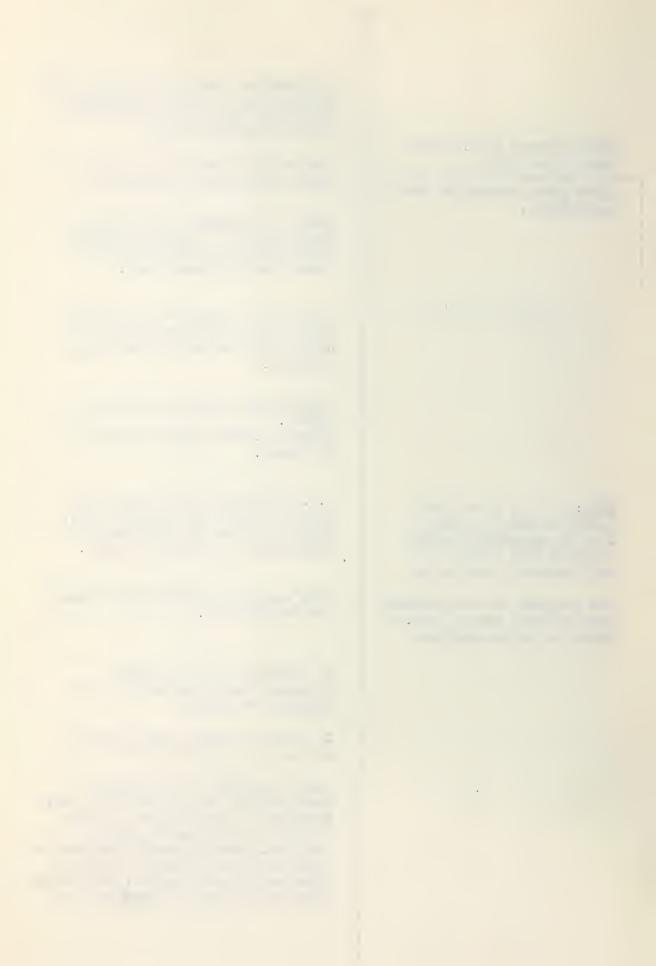
S.O. and copy to North Yard or to typist for mailing if out of town. Curb box sheets to Plant Records draughtsman who files by number.

Site examined to determine if ready for installation.

If site ready, Service Order allocated for installation, copy detached and filed.

If site not ready, Service Order and curb box copy to holding file.

Upon completion of installation.
Service Order and copy matched. Copy
destroyed. Service Order to Sales
record clerk in special mailing
envelope. Service installation date on
application and initials on Service
Order to indicate handled. Application
permanently filed in installed file



Premises Card

Premises card pulled and forwarded to meter record clerk.

After Meter installation premises card to Junior sales clerk for meter entry and filed geographically.

Record of Services Installed

Statistics entered and filed.

Monthly Record of Service Installed

Compiled at end of each month and forwarded to Sales Department.

Monthly Record of Service Pipe M to P

To Accounting Department Stock Clerk

Curb Box Sheet

Completed by draughtsmen and filed in curb box route box

S.O. to Plant Records.

S.O. footages checked for accuracy.

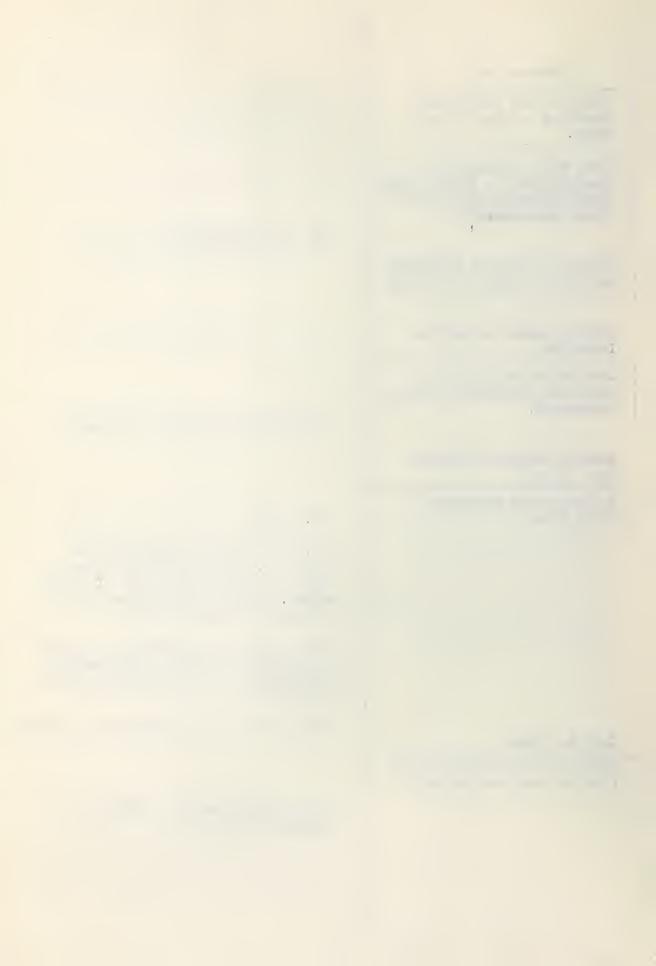
S.O. priced.

S.O. to Accounting Department for invoicing. The prepaid amount to be shown and balance extended. Invoices mailed. Office copy of invoice to Accounts Receivable clerk.

Service Order to Plant Records' clerk for sorting into those which require plotting on curb box sheets and those which don't.

Service Order to draughtsmen for plotting.

S.O. to Plant Records' clerk who permanently files.



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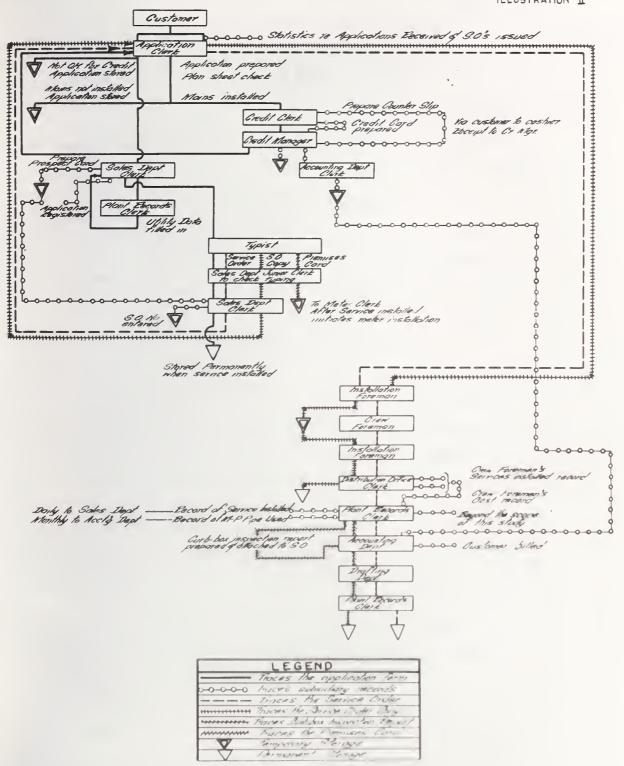


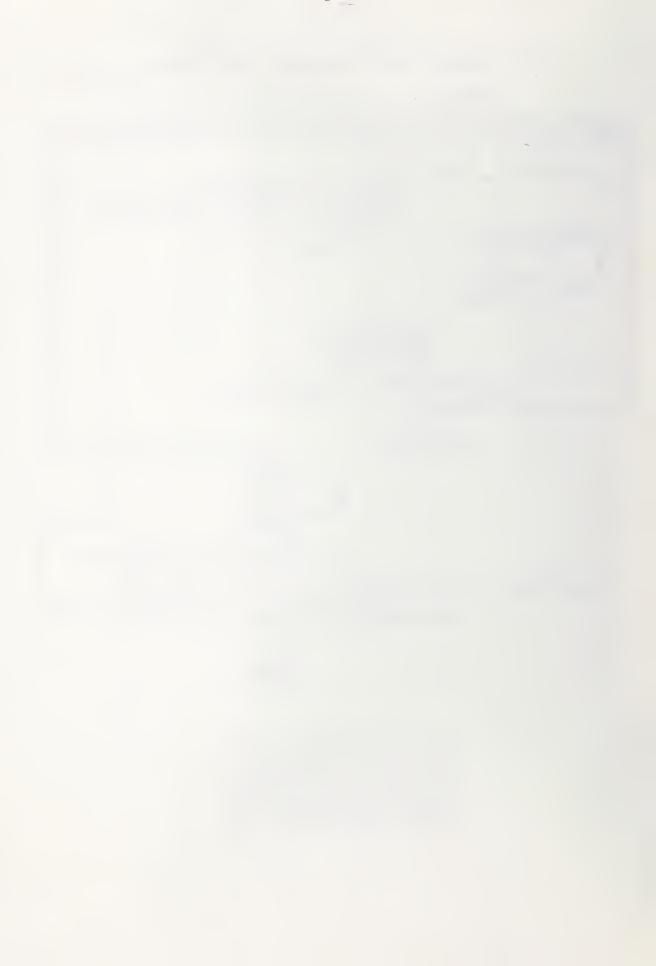
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S.O. and curb-box report separated and curb box report into (REF) (10) (14) (14) file box for routing into curt box book. 7 S.O. returned to Plant Records clerk (REF (PP) (TB) (Vac) (PF) (A) (B) 8 - Remove stapies and filed and permanently stored 9 . At end of each month, monthly record of services installed, Disconnected & Reconnected, completed and forwarded to Sales Days and Originals stored. \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc 10 11 h 12 13 14 15 18 17 18 \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc 19 (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) 20 (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) 21 22 (··) (··) (·) (·) (·) 23 24 25 CHECKED BY APPROVID BY 51 711741 107 A11 Tible, of all theng prints at a streng 115 7177 M 100 ALL 978 PG FORM NO. III-DIES COPYRIGHT 1949 REMINGTON RAND INC.



FLOW PROCESS CHART - ORIGINAL PROCEDURE

ILLUSTRATION I





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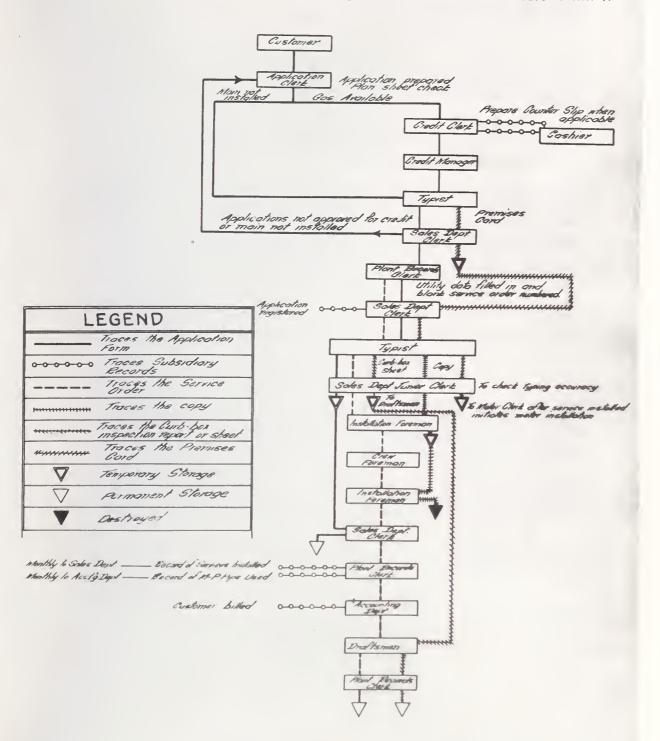


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FLOW PROCESS CHART- ADOPTED PROCEDURE

ILLUSTRATION IV





INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions will help you prepare the Process Analysis Work Sheet:

- STEPS IN PROCESS In these spaces describe briefly but clearly each step in the process. List in order of occurrence, show distance and time for important steps. Limit each space to one step or combined step only. A common example of a combined step is an operation and inspection that are performed simultaneously.
- II ELEMENTS OF WORK All elements of work fall into the following five general classifications:
 - Operation "An operation occurs when an object is intentionally changed in any of its physical or chemical characteristics, is assembled with or disassembled from another object, or is arranged or prepared for another operation, transportation, inspection or storage. An operation also occurs when information is given or received or when planning or calculating takes place." A breakdown of office operations indicate the majority of them
 - Reference as an operation is the directing of one's attention to a record or some data source to secure information. An excellent example of this is a clerk referring to a cross index to secure an account number. Note the distinction between this type of reference which is an operation only and a reference that also involves inspection. (Sect. II E).
 - Hand Posting includes any type of manual writing, ranging from the preparation of a lengthy document to initialing or signing a paper.
 - Typewriter or Machine Operation includes any mechanized office operation such as operating a typewriter, adding, calculating or billing machines, tabulating equipment and duplicating units. Photographic reproduction operations are usually placed in this classification.
 - Sorting includes sorting and assembling or collating of papers. Sorting can result in storage, usually temporary; e. g., papers in a sorting device or mailing rack. When this occurs, code both the operation of sorting, SAC, and the symbol for storage, temporary or permanent. These should be shown as separate steps, but can be combined in one to save space.
 - Filing or Finding are related office operations. Finding is an operation only, whereas filing involves storage. Be careful to make this distinction clear by coding both the operations of Filing, FF, and the proper storage symbol, temporary or permanent. These should be shown as separate steps, but can be combined
- in one to save space. All other operations are coded as X in the sixth column,
 - Transportation "Transportation occurs when an object is moved from one place to another except when such movements are caused by the process or by the operator at the work station during an operation or an inspection.'
 - C. Temporary Storage occurs when an object is kept pending further processing.
 - D. Permanent Storage occurs when an object is kept at a point set aside as the final storage place for the object. Note: If record is discarded or destroyed, make this triangle a solid black.
 - Inspection "An inspection occurs when an object is examined for identification, verified for quality or quantity, or measured in any of its characteristics." This includes examining a document for its completeness, accuracy, etc. Inspection as a reference is the checking of information received from one source against that secured from another source, i. e., verification. Example, clerk checking a physical count of stock report against the office stock record. This is a combined operation of reference and inspection and the symbols for Reference and Inspection should always be coded on the same line. Note the distinction between this type of reference and an operation reference. (Sect. II A. 1).
- DETERMINING THE PROPER SYMBOL It is sometimes difficult to classify definitely a situation as an operation, transportation, storage or an inspection. This is particularly true in the case of operations and inspections that
 are combined, e. g., reference as an operation and as an inspection (Sect. II E). The following will enable one to
 decide as to the proper classification: An operation always produces or accomplishes something; Transportation results in movement; Storage means keeping and Inspection always verifies.
- IV REMEMBER THESE QUESTIONS:
 - Why should the work be done?
 What is to be done?
- How is the work to be done?
 Who is to do the work?
- Where is the work to be done? 6. When is the work to be done?

ALWAYS ASK YOURSELF:

- 1. Can I eliminate?
 2. Can I combine?

- Can I change sequence?
 Can I simplify?

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CHAPTER III

Preliminary Study Of The Central Stores And Proposed Procedure Of An Additional Study To Improve Methods Of Materials Handling

A The Preliminary Study

After observing the existing methods of operation of the stores, and that the problem of space was not acute, it was decided that the improvement program should be divided into two parts and that the second part of the study should not be undertaken until the objectives of the first have been achieved. The underlying objectives of the preliminary study is to develop a pattern of operation and a way of thinking by the stores staff which would create the climate necessary for the effective implementation of better materials handling procedures. The other objectives of the preliminary study foster the underlying objective. They are to improve the service to other departments of the company in order to reduce the loss of productive man hours of other departments, and to develop work patterns in the stores which are prerequisite to the introduction of a comprehensive materials handling plan:

The procedure of issuing material and gasoline and oil usually resulted in bottlenecks between eight A.M. and nine A.M. most working days of the year. During the busy construction season, bottlenecks also developed between one and two P.M. and between four and five P.M. These bottlenecks can be avoided by:

- a) Off-hours loading of trucks, including noon hour loading
- b) Off-hours servicing of trucks with gas and oil

In the case of off-hours loading, each truck and/or crew is equipped with a supply of stock issue and return slips and a canvass bag to contain small items. Requisitions covering the next order are submitted to the stores by five P.M. or twelve noon, together with returned

material and return slips. The method of submitting requisitions and returns varies. Meter setters, customer service men, operation, maintenance and alteration crews, since they normally return to the central yard at five P.M. deliver their own requisitions and returns. The foremen of installation crews forward their requisitions and returns via their drivers.

Vehicles are serviced with gas and oil during the course of the evening shift upon completion at five P.M. of the existing gas and oil issue slips.

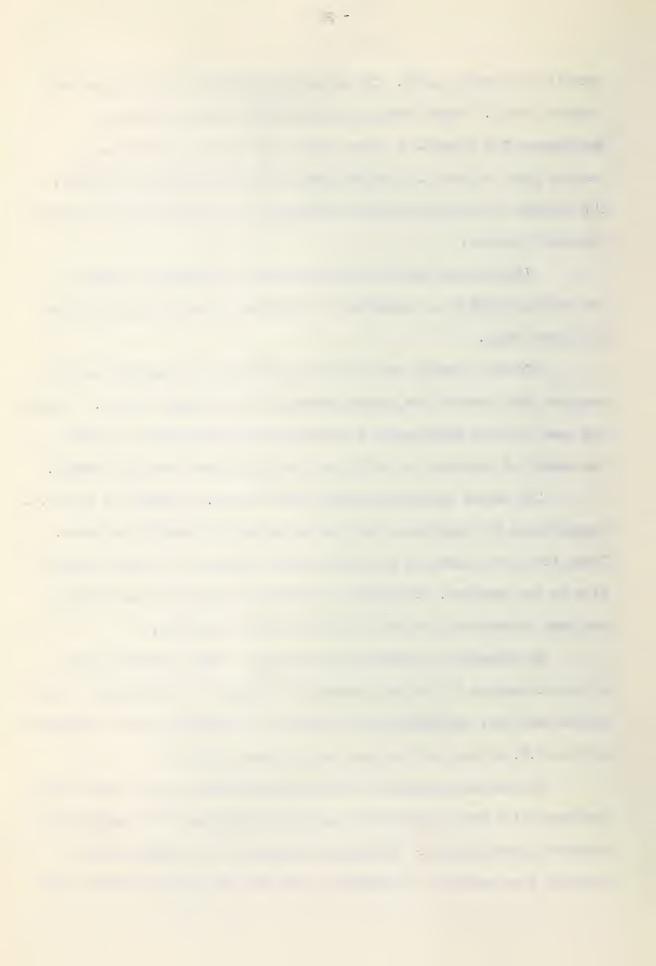
Off-hour loading and servicing of trucks with gasoline and oil requires that some of the stores personnel work staggered hours. Because the need of other departments for service varies throughout the year, the number of personnel on shift and the shift hours vary with demand.

The stores personnel working after five P.M. handle the five P.M. requisitions for materials, the returns and vehicle service requests.

Large items are loaded on the trucks, small items in the canvas bags and pipe on the carriers. The driver or foreman checks the material which has been loaded onto his truck with the stock issue slip.

No extension of records are required. Stock issue and return slips are used as in the past, requests for tools are filled upon return of the used one, and vehicles are serviced in the evening upon completion at five P.M. of the existing gas and oil issue slips.

The second objective of the preliminary study is to develop work patterns which are a prerequisite to the introduction of a comprehensive materials handling plan. The physical layout of the central stores provides four outlets - the west end, the east end, the tool room, and



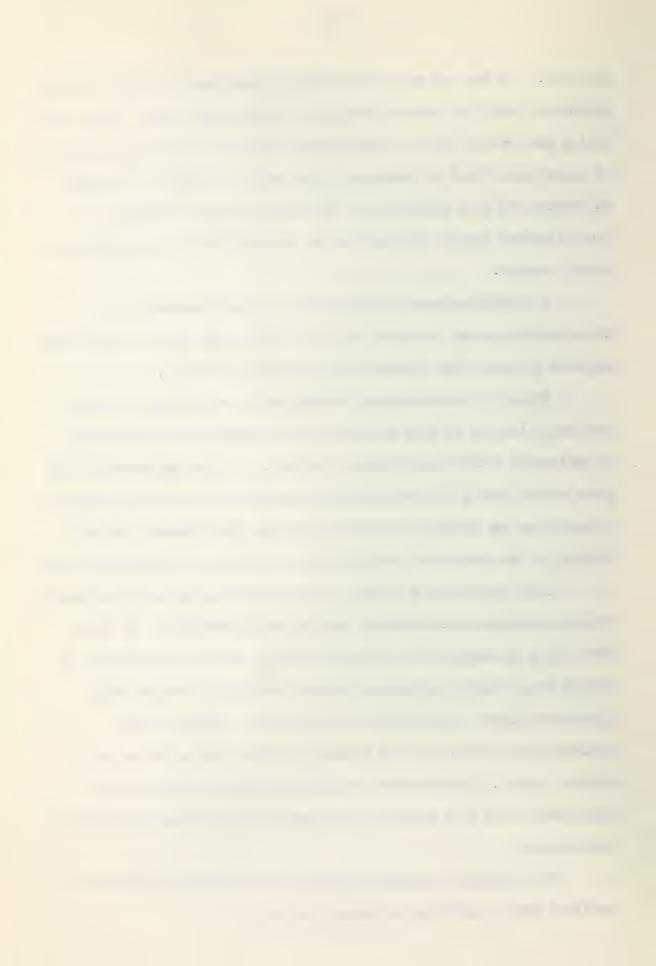
the yard. Two men are assigned to duties within each of these sections; additional staff is provided during the construction season. Under the policy that prompt service takes priority over any other stores activity, it is advisable that all members of the staff be trained for and work on counter and yard service when and where required. Excessive specialization impairs the mobility of personnel and is detrimental to prompt service.

A limited program of palletizing is also instrumental in advancing the second objective and at the same time conserves space and provides an easier and speedier way of handling material.

The act of receiving and storing goods does not pose the same problem as issuing in that service to other departments of the Company is indirectly rather than directly involved. A large proportion of the goods arrive during the off-peak season and most of the man hours used in receiving and storing do not fall into the "now" category and thus storing can be done within reason at the convenience of the stores staff.

Under the existing layout, one out-building and two locations in the main warehouse are available for palletizing material. In these areas rolls of asbestos felt, bags of cement, cases of wiping rags and welding rod, standard packages of dresser couplings, service cocks, nipples and elbows are stored on frame pallets. Cases of house regulators are palletized with pieces of timber four inches square by eighteen inches. Service tees, risers and spindles, which are prefabricated in the shop adjoining the warehouse are handled and stored in palletainers.

The following examples illustrate the reduction in number of handlings when palletizing procedures are used.



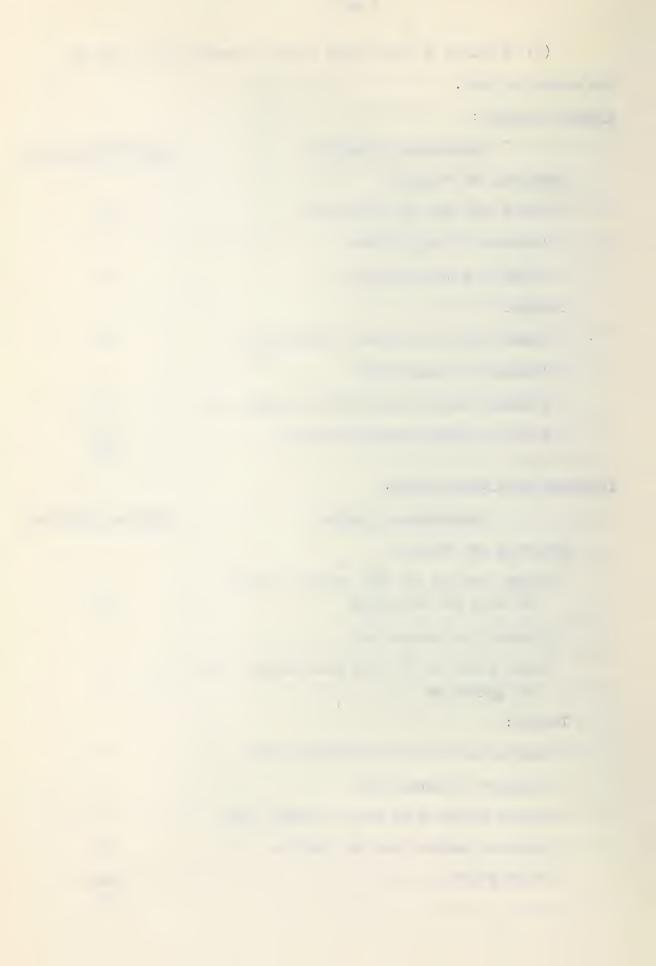
(1) Handling of forty-eight rolls of asbestos paper used by the enamelling yard.

Present Procedure:

Description of Action	Number of Handlings
Receiving and Storing:	
Unload from box car onto truck	48
Transport to storage shed	1
Unload from truck and pile	48
Issuing:	
Loaded onto cart for use in enamel yard	48
Transport to enamel yard	1
Unloaded from cart and piled in enamel shed	48
Each roll handled when put into use	<u>48</u> 242

Procedure Using Frame Pallet:

Description of Action	Number of Handlings
Receiving and Storing:	
Unload from box car onto pallet on truck 48 rolls and one pallet	49
Transport to storage shed	1
Unload pallet of 48 rolls with fork lift truck and palletize	1
Issuing:	
Load pallet of 48 rolls onto fork lift	1
Transport to enamel yard	1
Deposit pallet of 48 rolls in enamel shed	1
Each roll handled when put into use	48
Return pallet	103



Savings in number of handlings 242 - 103 =	139
Percentage reduction in number of handlings is	58%
(2) Handling Three Hundred Prefabricated Risers	S.
Present Procedure:	
<u>Description</u>	Number of Handlings
Receiving and Storing:	
Ordinary container to tester of prefabricated ri	sers l
Risers loaded into container and count recorded	300
Loaded container transported to storage bins	1
Risers unloaded into storage bins	300
Issuing:	
Load risers into ordinary container	300
Transport loaded container to issue area	1
Risers issued as required	300
	7002
Drogodyna Haine Ballatirana	1203
Procedure Using Palletizers:	
	1203
<u>Description</u> <u>N</u>	
Description Name Receiving and Storing:	umber of Handlings
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift	Sumber of Handlings 1 ed 300
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde	Sumber of Handlings 1 ed 300
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift	Sumber of Handlings 1 ed 300
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift truck	lumber of Handlings 1 2d 300
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift truck Loaded palletainer stored	fumber of Handlings 1 ed 300 1
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorde Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift truck Loaded palletainer stored Issuing:	fumber of Handlings 1 ed 300 1
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorded Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lifted truck Loaded palletainer stored Issuing: Loaded palletainer from storage to issue area via	fumber of Handlings 1 2d 300 1 1 1 1
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorded Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift truck Loaded palletainer stored Issuing: Loaded palletainer from storage to issue area via fork lift truck	lumber of Handlings 1 2d 300 1 1
Description Receiving and Storing: Palletainer to tester of prefabricated risers Risers loaded into palletainer and count recorded Loaded palletainer to storage area via fork lift truck Loaded palletainer stored Issuing: Loaded palletainer from storage to issue area via fork lift truck	fumber of Handlings 1 2d 300 1 1 1 1



B Proposed Procedure Of An Additional Study to Improve Materials
Handling At The Central Warehouse /1

When the problem of space at the central warehouse has become acute and when the objectives of the preliminary study have been realized, the need for a more comprehensive study, and justification for it in terms of cost, will exist. The cost of the study itself is usually limited to the time of the personnel involved and probably would not exceed fifteen hundred dollars. Adoption of the recommendations would depend upon whether the cost of the investment in the suggested equipment, alterations and/or additions to the building were less than the cost of the alternative investment. Also to be taken into consideration is any reduction in the cost of operating the stores and any additional saving of time of the staffs of other departments arising out of better service.

The analyst must have the objectives of the study clearly in mind. They are to conserve storage space and to facilitate rapid filling of orders by eliminating handling operations wherever possible and minimizing travel distances. He must also keep in mind maximum safety for personnel and minimum damage to material.

Along with the flow process charts of the existing procedure a body of data should be compiled. This data is required in preparing the flow process charts of the proposed procedure. It consists of the classification of materials by weight, bulk, inflammability, type of storage required, type of package, when storage required and care required in handling. The data required also consists of the rate of turnover of specific materials, the layout drawings of the stores, including ceiling heights, carrying load of floors, the existence of ramps and obstructions,

^{1/} Shubin and Madeheim, Plant Layout. Prentice-Hall Inc., New York



the distances materials are moved to storage and to outlets, the available routes of movement whether by floor or overhead, the available handling equipment and existing methods of handling.

With this body of data, with the flow process charts of the existing procedure and with the objectives of the study firmly in mind, prepare proposed flow process charts. In creating the proposed flow process charts the analyst is guided by these secondary objectives.

Establish inlets, storage areas and outlets, routes of travel and the best means of transport - ground or overhead. Inlets, storage areas and outlets should be arranged for least handling, shortest transportation distances, and be best suited to the classification of the material and the rate of turnover. In the case of materials with a high rate of turnover provide storage space near their outlet which is reasonable to meet short term demand and provide storage space at a more remote location for additional supplies. To reduce the probability of injury to personnel and damage to materials, mechanize to reduce strenuous handling.

The flow process charts should be accompanied by recommendations dealing with the best suited containers and their best loads, the handling equipment which is best suited to the containers and the space available for operation. Examples of containers are frame pallets, pallet racks, palletainers, bins, standard packages and bags. Containers should be selected which will conserve floor space, provide flexibility and accessibility, and can be issued as a unit whenever feasible such as a standard package or a loaded pallet. In selecting handling equipment consideration should also be given to flexibility and safety, suitability for long run needs, purchase price and operating and maintenance costs. Examples of equipment are wheelbarrows, hand trucks, power or hand cranes and fork lift trucks.

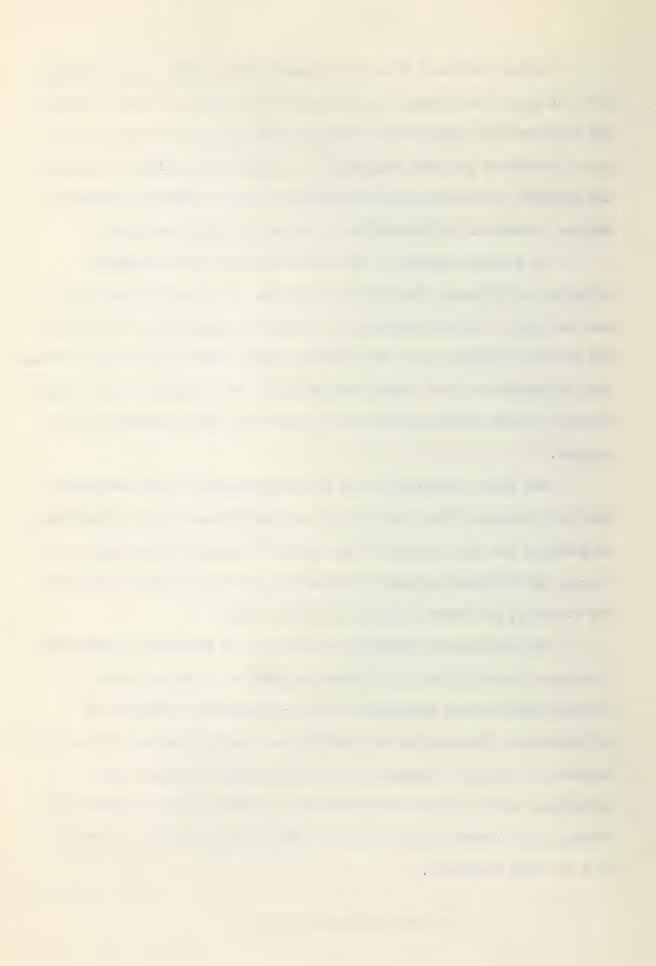


During the study frequent informal consultations should be held with the people associated with the work so that they will feel a part of the improvement program and so that they may criticize existing or proposed procedures and make suggestions for improvement. If this is done the proposed procedures will be acceptable to them, which is essential, because successful implementation is related to their acceptance.

At a formal meeting of the people concerned, the proposed procedure is reviewed, improved and verified. This meeting deals with a mass of detail which is essential to assure the workability of the plan and which is listed at the end of this Chapter. The chairman should assure that all members of the review committee have the functions of the stores clearly in mind and that they are in accord with the objectives of the program.

The major items dealt with during the course of the meeting are the verification of the flow charts, the completeness of the classification of material and the validity of the rates of turnover, the suitability of storage and handling equipment recommended, the use of space, provisions for security, and stock levels to be kept on hand.

The storing and handling of material is a horizontal rather than a vertical activity that cuts across departmental lines to become a company-wide function requiring an inter-departmental approach and co-operation. Thus storing and handling is important because of its scope because it involves a substantial operating expense, because good techniques enable the stores department to provide better service to the company, and because good practices in materials handling and storing lead to safer operation.



Check Points To Be Used By The Review Committee In Reviewing,

Improving and Verifying the Proposed Procedure.

The following check points are from a paper by P. T. Hughes,

Chairman of the Purchasing and Stores Committee of the American Gas Ass'n.

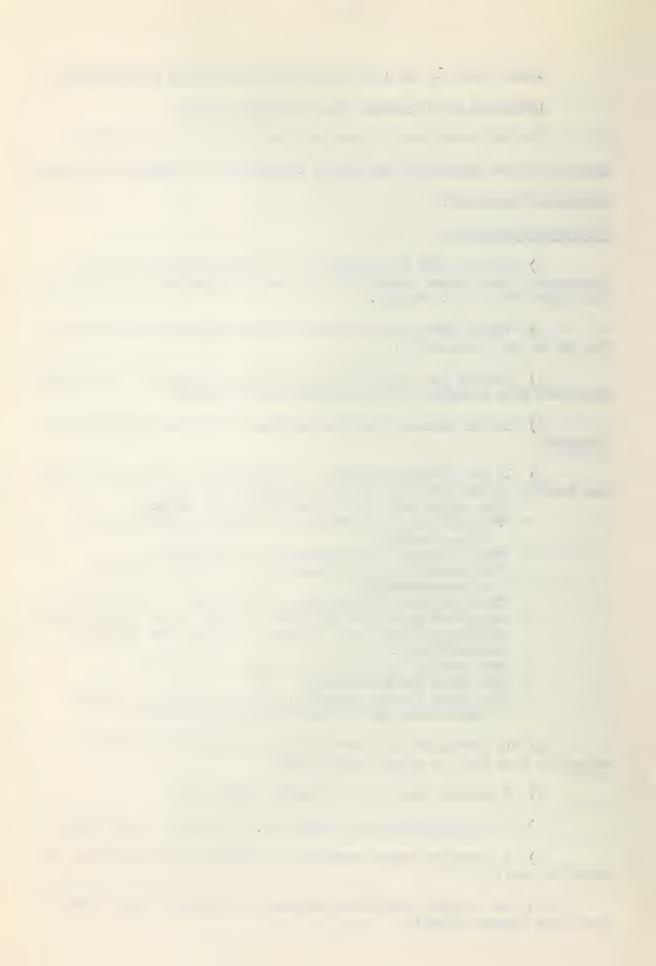
Warehouse Operations:

Warehouse Operations

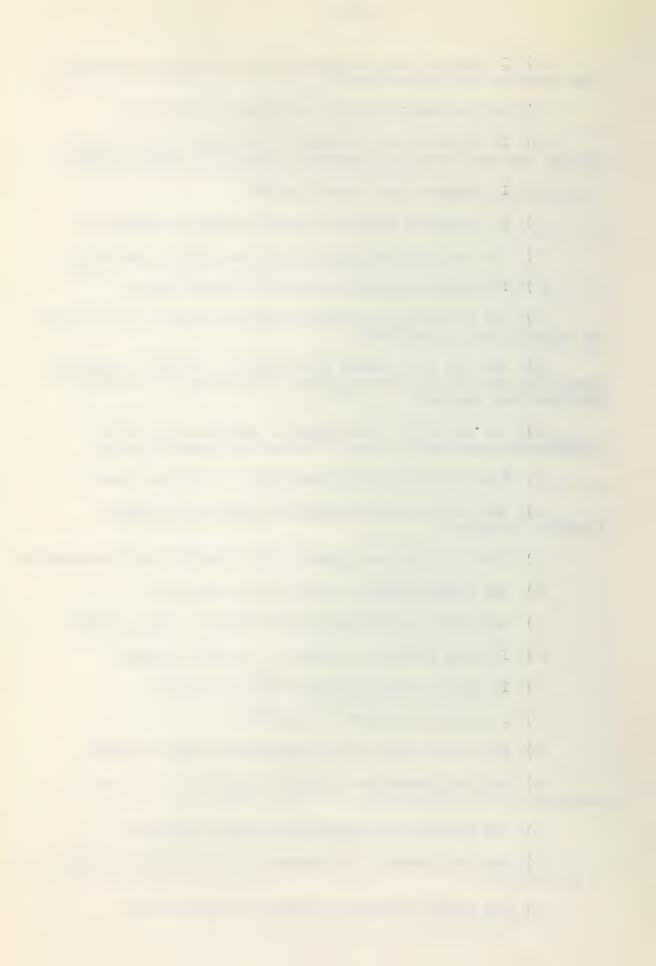
- 1) Be sure that all members of the review committee have the functions of the stores clearly in mind and that they are in accord with the objectives of the program.
- 2) Verify that the flow chart covers every function for which the stores are responsible.
- 3) Examine the classification and rate of turnover of material, which has been prepared, for completeness and validity.
- 4) Is the material handling equipment to be used flexible and adequate?
- 5) Is the storage equipment palletainers, pallets, bins, etc. and their proposed locations properly adjusted to:
 - The weight and shape of material to be stored?
 - The ability of the material to support weight without being crushed?
 - The diversity of the material to be stored?
 - The necessity for and importance of varying degrees of accessibility?

This involves consideration of the number of adjacent or supported pallets to be moved in order to get at the pallet desired and the labor savings to accrue from increased accessibility.

- The best use of horizontal and vertical space?
- The aisle space required?
- The floor loading capacity, column locations, overhead clearances, and storage area shape and size?
- 6) Is heated or cold storage space as required provided for materials that must be placed under cover?
 - 7) Is storage space for inflammable items safe?
 - 8) Are racks provided for drums and is location appropriate?
- 9) Is adequate space provided for accumulation of material for specific jobs?
- 10) Are special facilities adequate for storing tools, ladders, and other awkward items?



- 11) Is parking space provided for lift trucks, hand trucks, and other material handling equipment?
 - 12) Are emergency materials segregated and identified?
- 13) Is adequate space provided for warehouse supervisory and clerical personnel and will paperwork be affected by strong draughts?
 - 14) Is adequate aisle space provided?
 - 15) Is control of traffic of other personnel provided for?
 - 16) Are receiving and shipping docks and areas large enough?
 - 17) Is security provided for hard to control items?
- 18) Are the handling techniques suggested suited to the location, the material and the container?
- 19) Does the flow process chart provide a practical system for dispatching materials to pre-designated locations and for locating materials when required?
- 20) Are the stock levels suggested reasonable taking into consideration availability, rate of turnover and seasonal peaks?
 - 21) Does the plan limit accessibility to critical items?
- 22) Does the placement of material lend itself to good inventory technique?
 - 23) Does the warehouse operation lend itself to good housekeeping?
 - 24) Can night loading be effectively carried out?
 - 25) Can trucks be advantageously located for night loading?
 - 26) Is space provided for making up standard packages?
 - 27) Is space provided for miscellaneous storage?
 - 28) Is emergency equipment accessible?
 - 29) Will cross traffic in the warehouse become a problem?
- 30) Will the spaces not occupied by pallets be suitable for palletization at a later date?
 - 31) Can the tool room be expanded later if required?
- 32) Does the layout of the warehouse permit effective supervision of personnel?
 - 33) Can issuing counters be expanded in the future?



Warehouse Equipment

- 1) Are the suggested racks or shelving standard and interchangeable?
 - 2) Are the computations of floor and shelf tonnages accurate?
 - 3) Is the detailed plan of all material to be stored complete?
 - 4) Are all bins provided with label holders?
- 5) Is the material handling equipment suggested the best compromise from the points of view of utilization and cost?
- 6) Is the fork lift truck suitable regarding required fork lift and permissible mast height?
- 7) Are the pallet-racks selected properly designed considering ease of installation, need for adjustability, weight to be carried, pallet sizes, tray spans and height?
 - 8) Are stacking containers used wherever possible?
 - 9) Is shelving higher than seven feet?
- 10) Are fire hoses and equipment and first-aid equipment properly placed?
- 11) Are there any warehouse or yard facilities lower than the maximum mast height plus load on the fork lift truck?
- 12) Are the aisles and shelves adequately lit and the electric outlets accessible?

I (

CHAPTER IV

To Reduce The Cost Of Labor Installing Services

A Scope Of The Study

A service line is the pipeline which carries gas from the main in a street or lane into a building. The total cost of installation is made up of pipe and other materials, labor, including supervision and clerical, transportation, depreciation on equipment, and miscellaneous supplies and expenses. This study is concerned with the reduction of the cost of labor installing services.

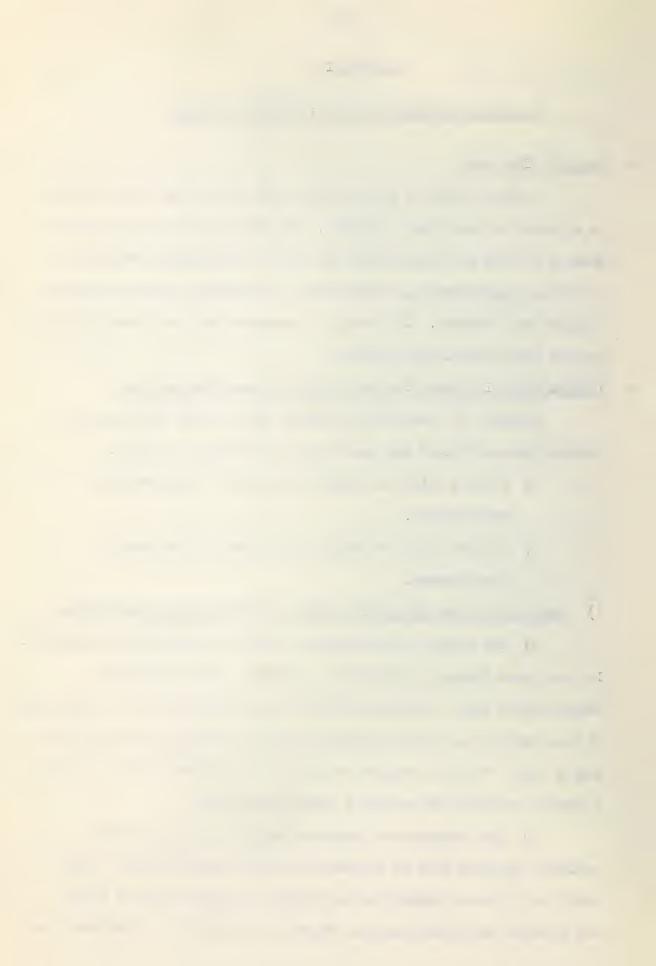
B Factors Which Influence The Labor Cost of Installing Services

A period of observation revealed there are two major types of factors which influence the labor cost of installing services.

- 1) Factors which are beyond the control of the service crew foreman.
- 2) Factors which are within the control of the service crew foreman.

1) Factors Which Are Beyond The Control Of The Service Crew Foreman

- a) The nature of the ground in which the services are installed. In some areas digging is difficult, whereas in others digging is comparatively easy. Ditches which are ditcher dug reduce the significance of this factor, but some significance remains because bell holes must be dug by hand. The time required to dig a bell hole varies from one and a quarter man hours to two and a quarter man hours.
- b) The frequency and length of moves. Crews working on scattered services move as frequently as three times per day. Moves result in a loss of productive time because equipment must be packed and unpacked and travelling time between installations is involved. The



longer the move, the greater the loss of productive time, and the larger the crew, the greater the labor cost of the move. In addition, the higher the frequency of the moves, the greater the probability of losing time awaiting transportation.

- c) Occasionally crews arrive at the site of a service installation to find the route of the service line obstructed by a mound of dirt or other debris. Loss of time results from removing the debris, making another move or awaiting further instructions.
- d) Some crews doing scattered services are larger than necessary, resulting in excessive labor cost.

2) Factors Which Are Within The Control Of The Service Crew

- a) Some crews occasionally are delayed due to a shortage of supplies at the site of the job. Service trucks visit crews two or three times daily, yet shortages occur.
- b) Some foremen tolerate ineffective men on their crews which adversely affects the output of other workers.
 - c) Work output is reduced by tools which do not operate efficently.
- d) The attitude, organizing ability and activity of the crew foreman is significant. Some guide the work effectively but are not very active, some of the foremen are active but do not guide effectively, some are neither active nor guide effectively, and the remainder both guide effectively and are themselves active. The latter group usually have the lowest unit costs.
- C Procedures Which Have Been Developed To Reduce The Labor Cost Of Installing Services
 - 1) The service order routine was revised to smooth the flow of service orders to the installation supervisor which enable him to reduce moves. (See Chapter II)

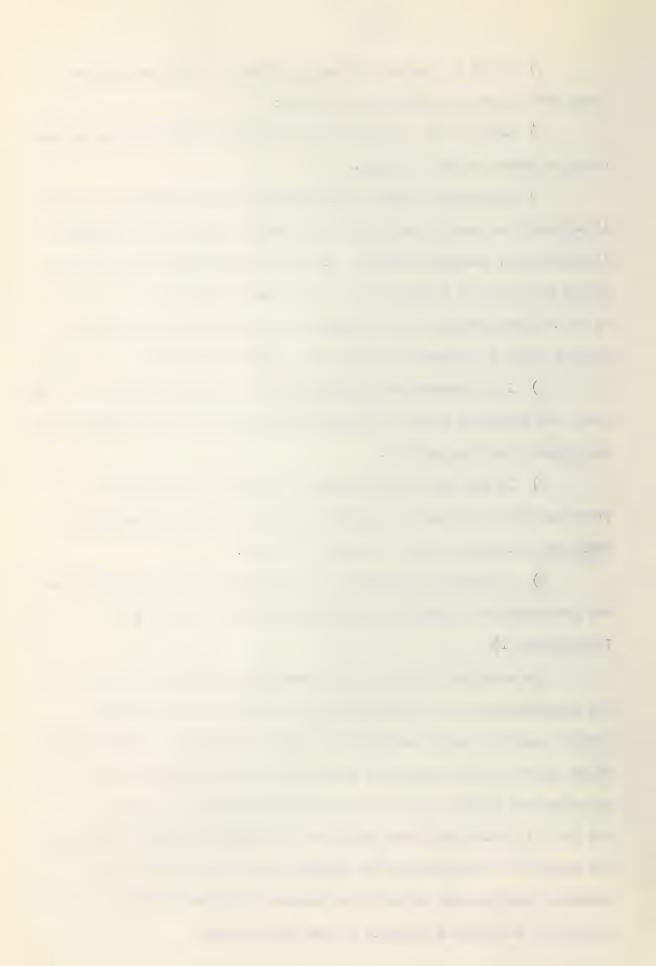
.

- 2) Prior to issuing the service orders to the installation crews the following precautions are taken:
- a) The site is inspected to be sure it is ready and the service entry is marked on the building.
- b) The time of issue of the service orders to the crew foremen is adjusted to permit installation in a series, rather than scattered installations, whenever possible. If other installations will be made nearby and will not require a move, which are not ready now, but will be in the near future, it is reasonable to hold back service orders until a group is accumulated which will permit installation in a series.
- c) It is determined whether the service can be ditcher dug. The labor and equipment cost of a ditcher dug service is in the order of 20% less than a hand dug service.
- d) In the case of an abnormal installation, information is provided which will enable the crew foreman to obtain the necessary tools and materials prior to moving to the job.
- 3) A study was undertaken to determine the most efficient size and procedure for a crew doing scattered hand dug services (See Illustration I)

The essential activities that must be performed were determined, and coincidentally, the time required to accomplish each activity.

Several activity charts were taken of crews performing an installation.

These charts revealed excessive standby time due to more men than necessary and faulty sequence of performing the various elements of the job. Illustration I was developed to record the standard times for job elements, to demonstrate the economic crew size for hand dug scattered services and to point out the most efficient sequence of performing the various elements of the installation.



4) A report to be completed daily by the crew foreman, was developed to record the completed installations, the actual time spent on the installation (productive hours), and the actual time spent moving or waiting (non-productive hours). (See Illustration II)

Using the standard times recorded on the activity chart,

Illustration I, a procedure was developed to determine the productive

rate of crews installing service lines. This method of determining

the productive rate of a crew compensates for the different circumstances

under which services are installed so that the productive rate for each

crew is comparable. In addition, the standard productive rate is given

so that the performance of each crew can also be compared with a standard.

In determining the productive rate, productive hours as reported on Illustration II by the crew foreman are used. Non-productive hours also recorded on Illustration II record the effectiveness of the organization serving the crew. These two records, when accumulated, direct the supervisors attention to crews which require his assistance and also to any weaknesses in the organization serving the crews. (See Illustration III)

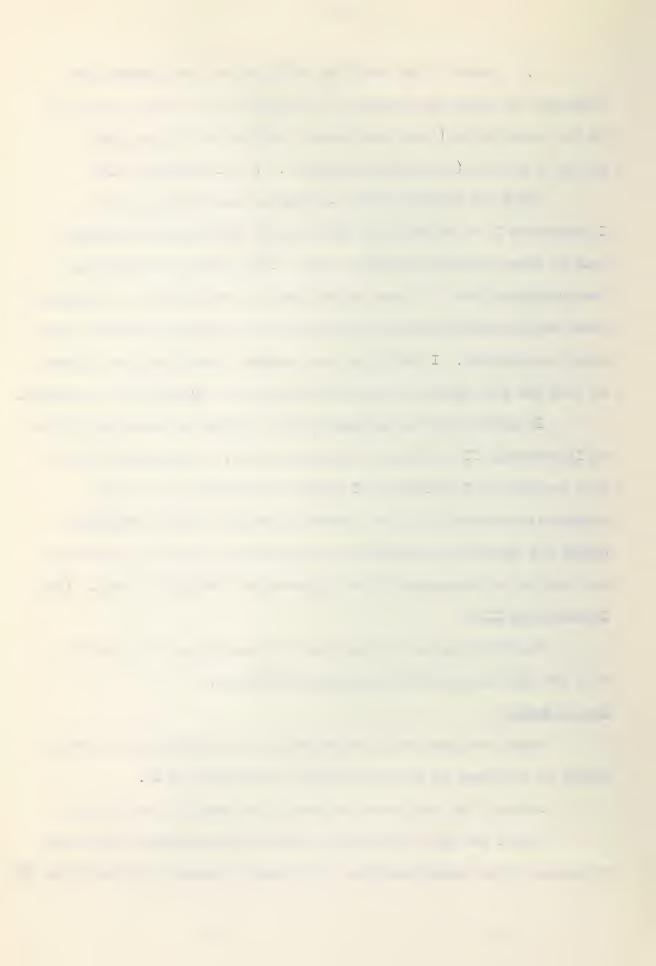
The following are instructions for determining the productive rate and also describe how the graphs are derived.

Use of Graphs

Select the graph which represents the circumstances of installation as indicated by the crew foreman on Illustration II.

Read off the work units related to the length of the service.

Divide the work units thus obtained by the productive man hours to arrive at the productive rate. This data is entered on Illustration III.



Adjustments

For sticky clay soil, hand dug and hand backfilled, increase the work units obtained from the graph by 16%.

For sticky sandy soil, hand dug and hand backfilled, increase the work units obtained from the graph by 10%.

For sticky soil, ditcher dug but hand backfilled, increase the work units obtained from the graph by 14%.

The following data is provided to show how the graphs have been derived and to provide the information for unusual adjustments - e.g. a ditch partially hand dug with the balance machine dug, garage service in the same trench, etc.

The Basic Data - job elements of a service installation with standard time for each element in the case of a scattered 3/4" service, 80' long, hand dug in clay soil and backfilled by hand.

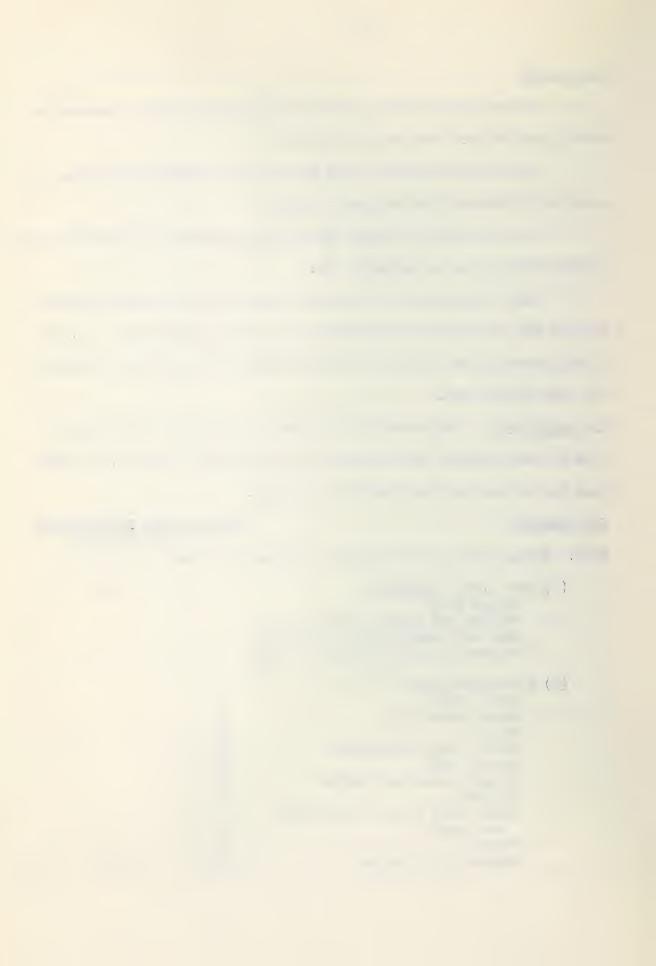
Job Elements

Standard Time In Work Units (man minutes)

Note: Moving time is not included in productive time.

(1) Make ready operations	50
Unload truck	
Get out and prepare tools	
Mark and measure House to Property	
Allowance for maintenance of tools	

145

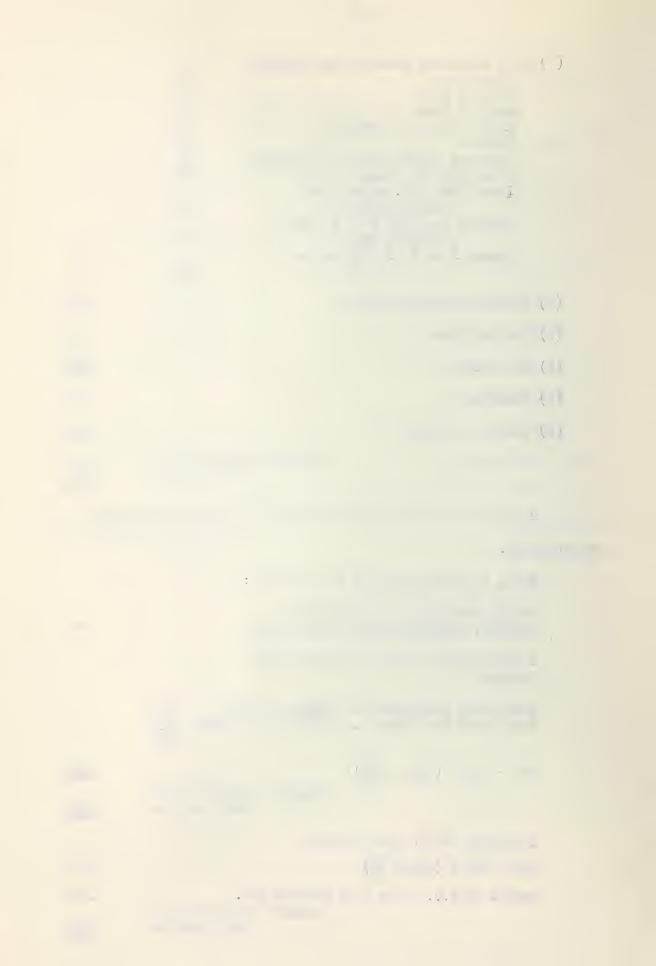


(3) Pipe Handling, treating and welding Align pipe Welding pipe Make up vent Make up Main to Property Weld T Wrap and enamel House to property Place pipe in trench Install M to P, riser, vent, Service cock Prime M to P, T, H to P, and Service cock Enamel M to P, T, and service Cock 5 Enamel M to P, T, and service Cock 15	135
(4) Records and supervision	20
(5) Dig bell hole	100
(6) Dig trench	255
(7) Backfill	165
(8) Pack up for move	10_
Standard work units for 80' service	880

To arrive at graph, the work units for two other footages are required.

Thus, to adjust for 100 foot service:

Add 20 work units for additional welding, enamelling and pipe fitting	20
To adjust work units for additional footage	
Work units applicable to digging trench 255 Work units applicable to backfilling trench 125 380	
$800 - 380 + (380 \times \frac{100}{80}) =$ Standard work units for 100' service	975
To adjust for 60 foot service	
$800 - 380 + (380 \times \frac{60}{80})$	785
Deduct 20 W.U.'s for less welding etc. Standard work units for	
60' service	765



Scattered 3/4" service, 80' long, hand dug, sandy soil, backfilled by hand

Tab Planest	Ctondon Mimo
Job Element	Standard Time
(1)	50
(2)	145
(3)	135
(4)	20
(5)	75
(6)	195
(7)	150
(8)	10

Standard work units for 80' service 780

NOTE: Based on sandy soil 25% easier to dig and 10% easier to backfill.

To adjust for 100 foot service

$$780 - 300 + (300 \times \frac{100}{80}) = 855$$

Add 20 W.U's for additional welding etc. 20 875

To adjust for 60 foot service

$$780 - 300 + (300 \times \frac{60}{80}) = 705$$

Deduct 20 W.U's for less welding etc. 20 685

More than one 3/4" service at the same site, dug and backfilled by hand, clay soil

Job Element	Standard Time
(1)	20
(2)	140
(3)	120
(4)	20
(5)	100
(6)	255
(7)	165
(8)	5

Standard work units for 80' service 825

To adjust for 100 foot service

$$825 - 380 + (380 \times \frac{100}{80}) = 920$$

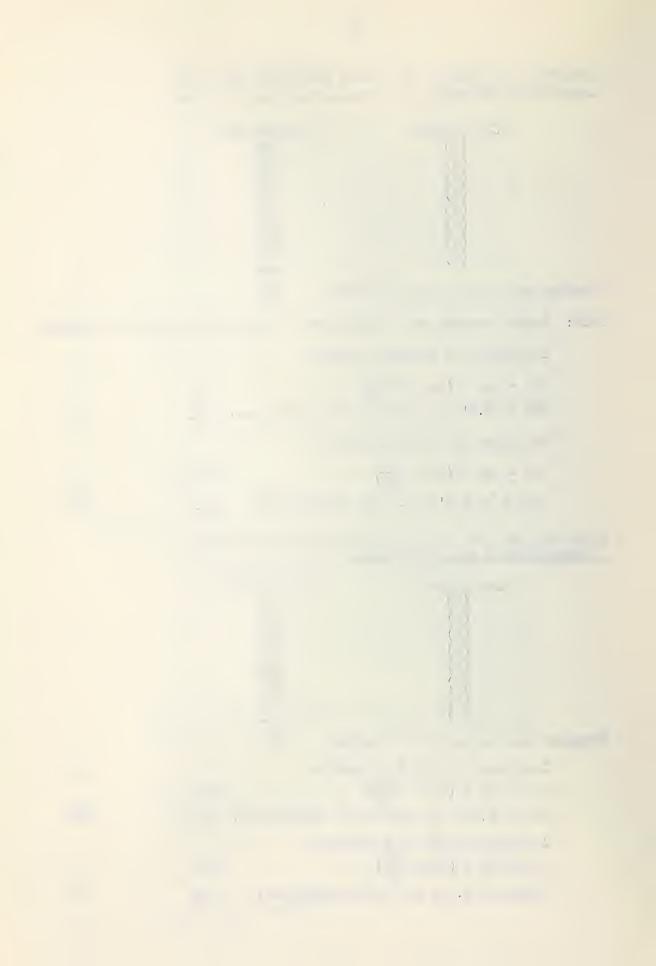
Add 20 W.U's for additional welding etc. 20

To adjust for 60 foot service

$$825 - 380 + (380 \times \frac{60}{80}) = 730$$

Deduct 20 W.U's for less welding etc. 20 710

940



More than one 3/4" service at the same site, dug and backfilled by hand, sandy soil

Job Element Stand (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)	20 140 120 20 75 195 140		
Standard work units for 80' service	715		
To adjust for 100 foot service			
$715 - 300 + (300 \times \frac{100}{80}) =$	7	90	
Add 20 W.U's for additional welding et	cc	20_	810
To adjust for 60 foot service			
$715 - 300 + (300 \times \frac{60}{80}) =$	6	40	
Deduct 20 W.U's for less welding etc.	_	20	620
Continued 2/hill country distribution during and harder	77-7 2-0	3	

Scattered 3/4" service, ditcher dug and backfilled by hand, clay soil

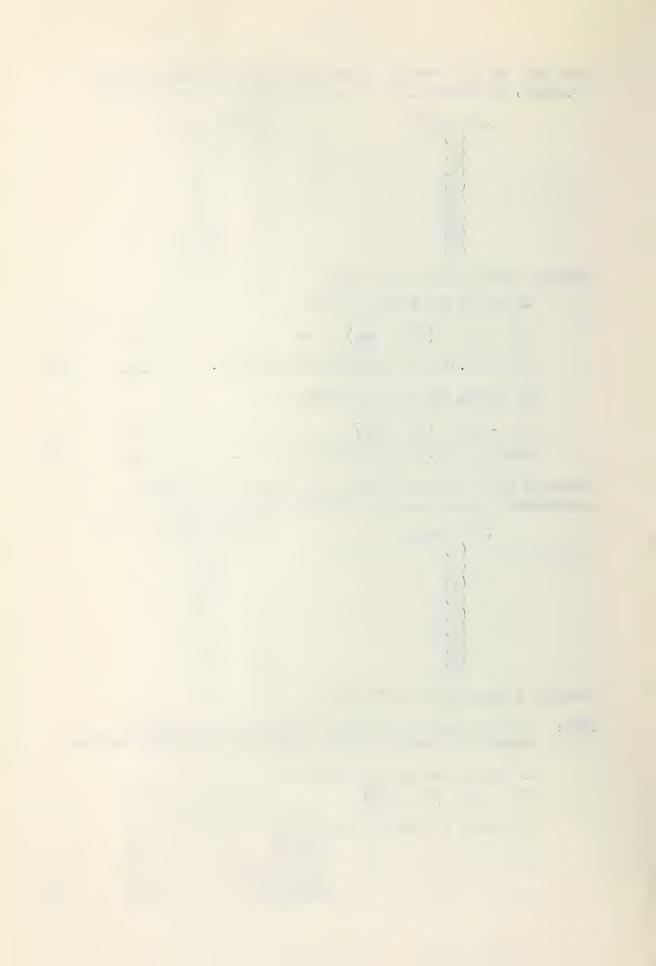
Job Element	Standard Time
(1)	45
(2)	155
(3)	135
(4)	20
(5)	100
(6)	20
(7)	125
(8)	10

Standard work units for 80' service 610

NOTE: Ditcher dug reduces ditch backfilling time by 25%.

Backfilling ditch is 75% of backfilling of an 80' service.

To adjust for 200 foot service $610 - 95 + (95 \times \frac{200}{80}) = 755$ Allowance for additional walking 10 welding 20 aligning 10 pipe in trench 20 enamelling 10 825



TO	ad inst.	for	300	font.	service

610 - 95 + (95 x 300)	=	875	
Allowance for additional	walking welding aligning pipe in trench enamelling	15 40 20 30 20	1000

Scattered 3/4" service, ditcher dug and backfilled by hand, sandy soil

Job Element	Standard	Time
(2)	155	
(3)	135	
(14)	20	
(5)	75	
(6)	20	
(7)	115	
(0)	10	

Standard work units for 80' service

575

To adjust for 200 foot service

775

To adjust for 300 foot service

$$575 - 85 + (85 \times \frac{300}{80}) = 810$$
Allowance for additional walking welding 40 aligning 20 pipe in trench 30 enamelling 20

935

3/4" Services in a series - ditcher dug - backfilled by hand - clay soil

Job Element	Standard Time
(1)	10
(2)	135
(3)	125
(4)	20
(5)	100
(6)	50
(7)	125
(8)	5_
k units for 80' service	540

Standard work units for 80' service



To adjust for 100 foot service

$$540 - 125 + (125 \times \frac{100}{80})$$
 = 570

Add 20 work units for additional welding etc. 20 590

To adjust for 60 foot service

 $540 - 125 + (125 \times \frac{60}{80})$ = 510

490

545

20

Deduct 20 work units for less welding etc.

3/4" Services in a series - ditcher dug - backfilled by hand - sandy soil

Standard Time
10
135
125
20
75
20
115
_5

Standard work units for 80' service

To adjust for 100 foot service

505 - 85 + (85 x
$$\frac{100}{80}$$
) = 525
Add 20 work units for additional welding etc. $\frac{20}{505}$

To adjust for 60 foot service
$$505 - 85 + (85 \times \frac{60}{80}) = 485$$

Deduct 20 work units for less welding etc. 20 465

505

3/4" Services in series - ditcher dug - backfilled by machine

Job Element	Standard Time
(1)	10
(2)	135 125
(4) (5)	20 100
(6)	20 15
(8)	5
Standard work units for 80' service	430



To adjust for 100 foot service

Add 20 work units for additional welding etc.

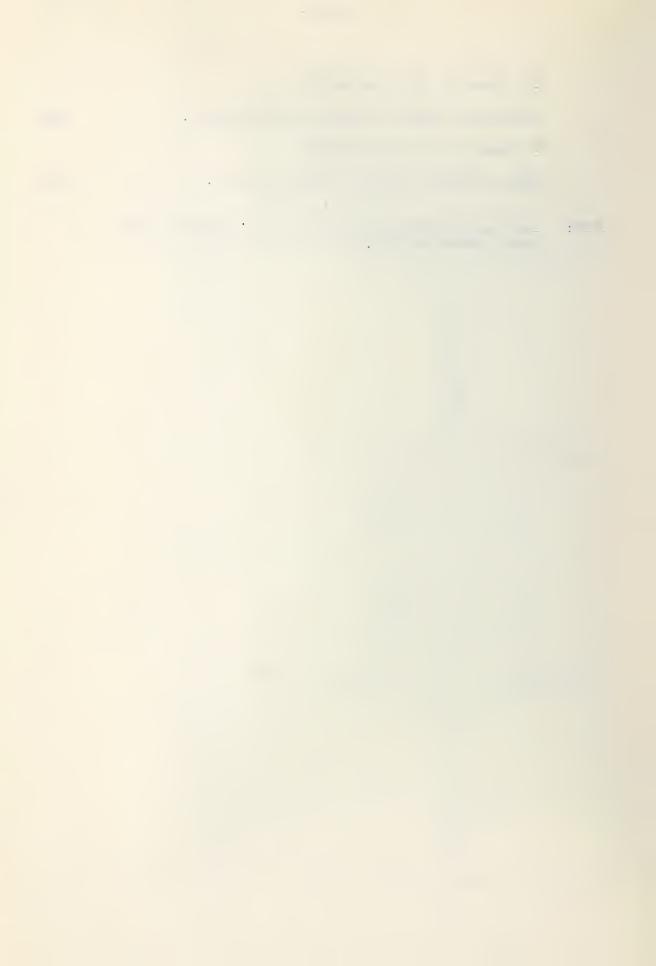
450

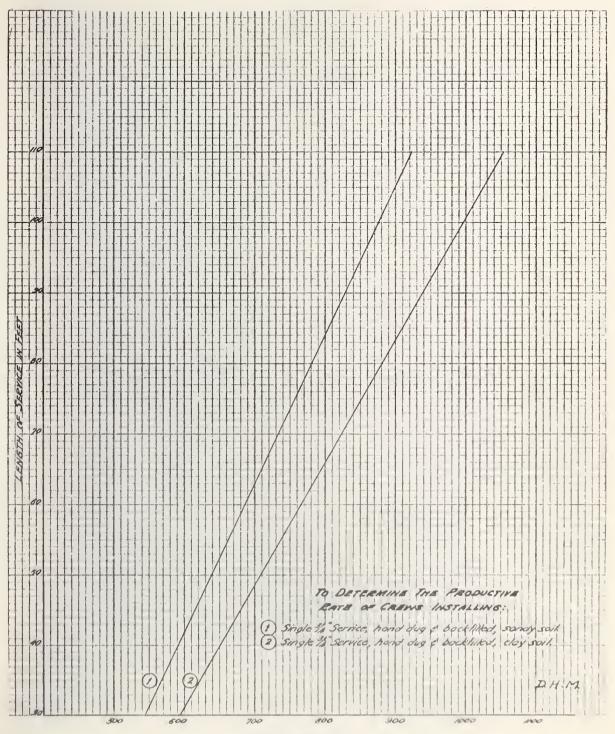
To adjust for 60 foot service

Deduct 20 work units for less welding etc.

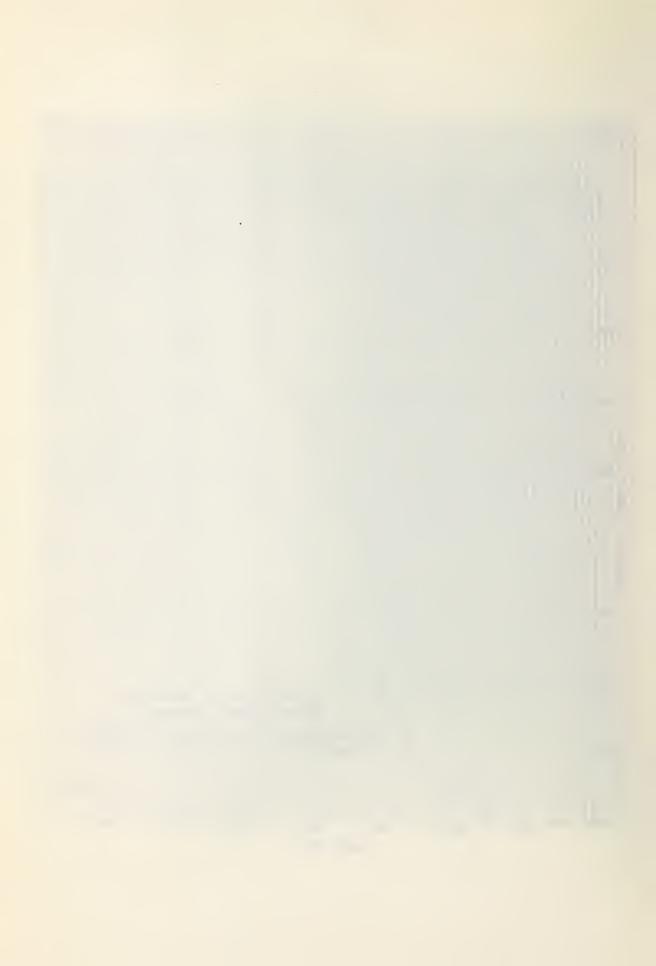
410

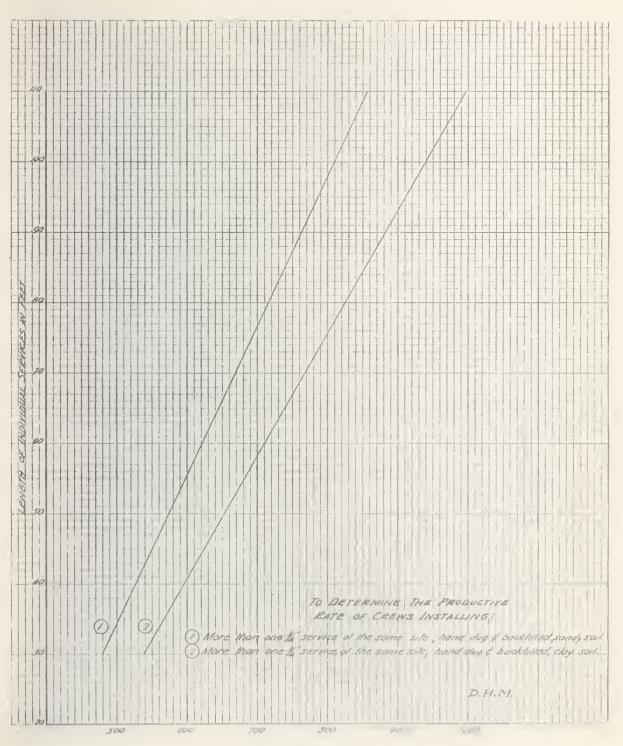
NOTE: The time of machine operators is not included in the crews productive time.





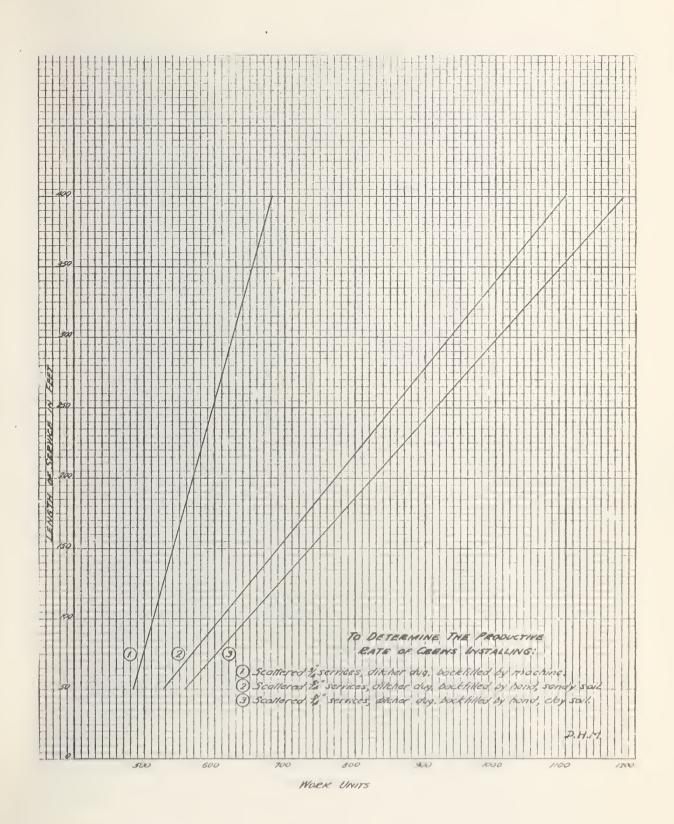
NORK UNITS



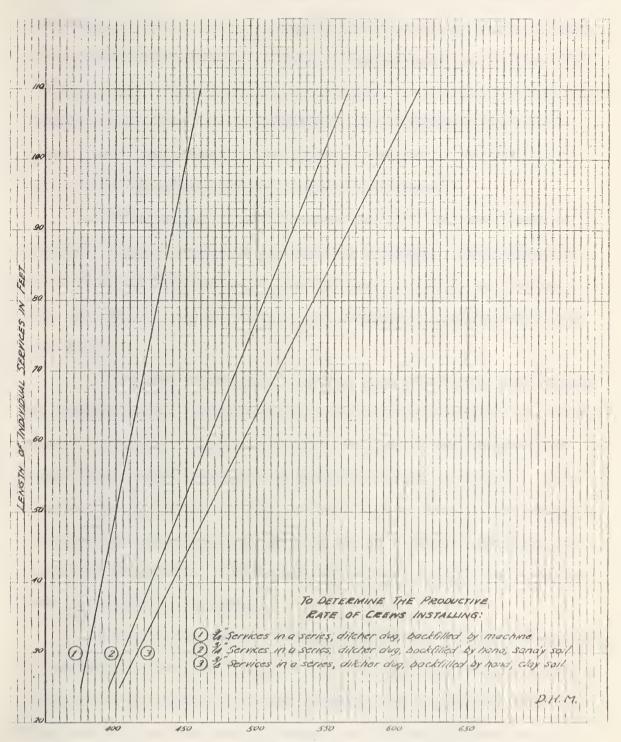


WORK UNITS









WORK UNITS



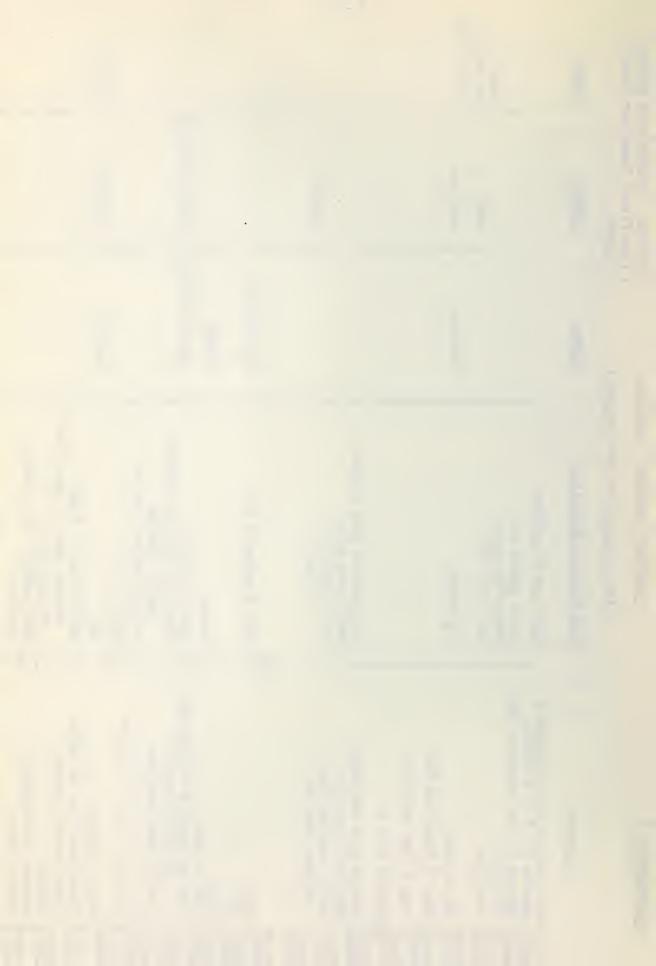
- 5) The productive record of each crew foreman each day and accumulated to date is tabulated on Illustration III. In addition, the percentage of unproductive to productive hours measures the efficiency of the organization behind the crews. These accumulated records direct the supervisor's and the installation foreman's attention to crews which require guidance and to any weakening of the organization behind the crews. The effectiveness of the productive record is related to the use of it by the supervisor and installation foreman.
- 6) The activity chart Illustration I for scattered services is a guide for the most effective installation procedure. The progress of the work should be governed so that the tee, the ditch, the string of pipe, and the hole in the wall are all completed at approximately the same time.

In the case of services installed in a series, the crew foremen are instructed that a service crew consists of two sections, the skilled section which welds, pipe fits, enamels and tests, and the unskilled section which digs, backfills and punches the hole in the wall. This concept enables the crew foreman to guide the two phases of a series installation without one phase getting out of line with the other, thus minimizing standby time. Adjustment is provided by shifting personnel from one section to the other.

7) Due to the peak of installations during the late autumn caused by construction completions which is in turn governed by our climate, a relatively large number of skilled personnel are required at that time. These are obtained from our Maintenance and Inspection crews who have completed their annual program with the assistance of skilled service crew personnel, a number of whom would not otherwise be fully employed during the winter and early summer.

T T ı I Ţ .

pe fitter er Digger		Digger	Trench - do next to	house first	- 52 -			Backfill			
Foreman - welder pipe fitter Pipe Fitter Enameller Digger	Diggers	Digger	Help	Bellhole	Trench		Pipe In Trench	Backfill			
	i'm	Digger		Bellhole		Pour Enamel	Trench Pipe In Trench	Backfill			
SCATTERED SERVICES - HAND DUG	(Add 1 Digger For Hard Digging)	Pipe Fitter - Enameller	Help work & measure Start Enamel Pot Help align pipe Help weld pipe	Dig trench	Help measure pipe & prime Help punch hole Carry hammer and chisels	Wrap & enamel H to P	Trench Pipe in trench Install M to P and service	Prepare cement & oakum Prime M to P Tap Enamel M to P, T and service cock in same order as priming Help measure for location Clean Up			
ILUSTRATION I		Foreman	0:00 Mark Service for trenching & :05 measure for H to P string :10 Cap end of one length of pipe Align Pipe Weld Pipe	:30 Fut On Test Make Up Riser and Vent Soap & take off test :50 \ Make up M to P	1:00 Measure Pipe and Record Mark and punch hole 10 Cerry riser and bent and brace and bit	:30 Weld:40 T	:50 Service Order Pipe in trench & through wall 2:00	100) Test soap M to P and riser 20) Watch tapping 30 Bleed line & put on barrel lock; oakum & cement lock; oakum & cement Stencil Measure for location 50 Service Order			



this day 0,1,2,3,4.	Garage Service Footage laid in same ditch as House Service.	Specify Kind of Equipment and time spent for "Other Reasons".
Check Number of Moves this day C,1,2,3,4,	Footage of Fire Installed.	Actual Thre for Avaiting Other a Move Material Equip. Reasons
	Nachine	Actual Time for Matting More Material
UNIT LABR OST SHEET D'STAILD'S SHVICE LINES.	Fand	Moving
UTTE I	Dig Ous tomer	of Install
	Pootage Discher	
o.'s (A) Seme Site (E) Scattered	20 S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	Name Classification Rate Since State Since the Day. Give brief description of extraordinary circumstances
Indicate Beside S.O. No.'s And of Soil	Completed Service Order 7015	Name Control of the Day



ILLUSTRATION III

PRODUCTIV	TE RECORD	

SERVICE CREWS

MONTH	

CREW FOREMAN SIZE 3/4" & 1-1/4"

		DAILY	STATISTICS			1	TO DATE					
DATE	PRODUCTIVE	WORK	PRODUCTIVE	UNPROD.	% UNPROD.	PRODUCTIVE	WORK	PRODUCTIVE	UNPROD.	% UNPROD		
22	HOURS	UNITS	HOURS	HOURS	TO PROD.	HOURS	UNITS	HOURS	HOURS	TO PROD.		
									1100115	TO THOD.		
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CHAPTER V

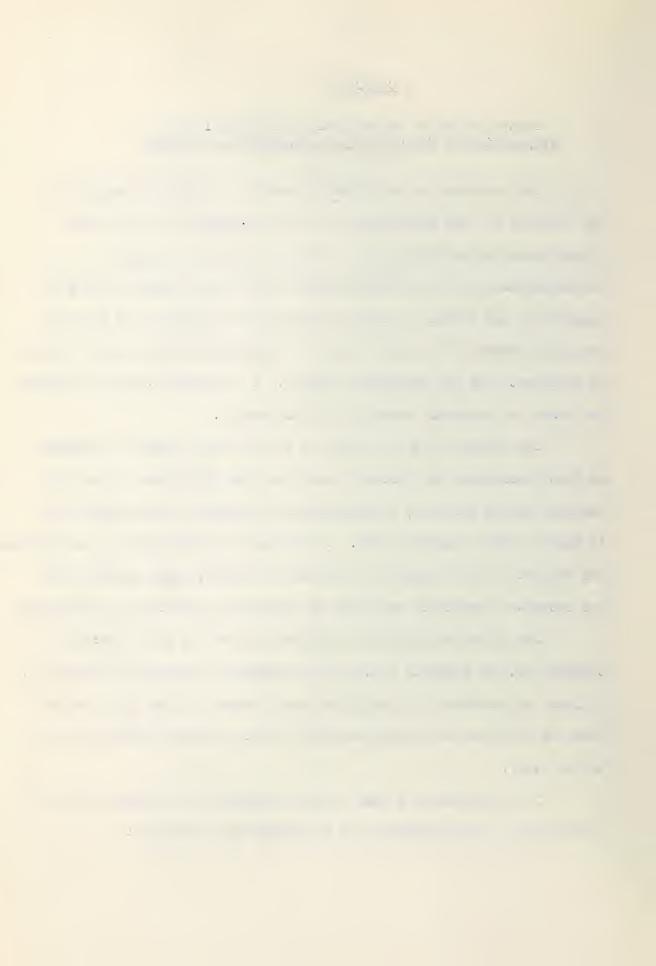
Participation Of Supervisors and Foremen In The Preparation Of The Operating and Maintenance Budgets

The operating and maintenance budget is prepared primarily for the scrutiny of, and authorization by top management of the proposed expenditures for the coming year. When the items are compiled chronologically and in sufficient detail the budget becomes a guide to supervisors and foremen directly responsible for carrying out the work and, when matched with their record of activity during the year, provides an excellent tool for management control. This assumes that the estimates are based on reasonable standards of performance.

The purpose of this chapter is to show how a budget is prepared so that supervisors and foremen record the work which their crews will complete during the year, chronologically arranged so that maximum use is made of their existing staff. The method of preparation also establishes the validity of any request for additions to staff, again assuming that the estimates themselves are based on reasonable standards of performance.

The objective approach to budgeting lists the jobs to be done together with an estimate of the time and material required for each job, followed by allocation of individual staff members to the jobs; rather than the procedure of listing the staff first and then fittings the jobs to the staff.

The instructions issued to the supervisors and foremen who are to participate in the preparation of the budget are as follows:



(1) All of the operating and maintenance jobs that are to be done in each district should be listed under their proper account number and chronologically by the months in which they are to start. See attached example (1). Refer to your 1955 Budget Details or ask for guidance regarding the account in which the job belongs.

It is important that each job to be done is listed individually regardless of its size in order that a complete record of all work to be done is available, and in order that your Department Head may appraise each item.

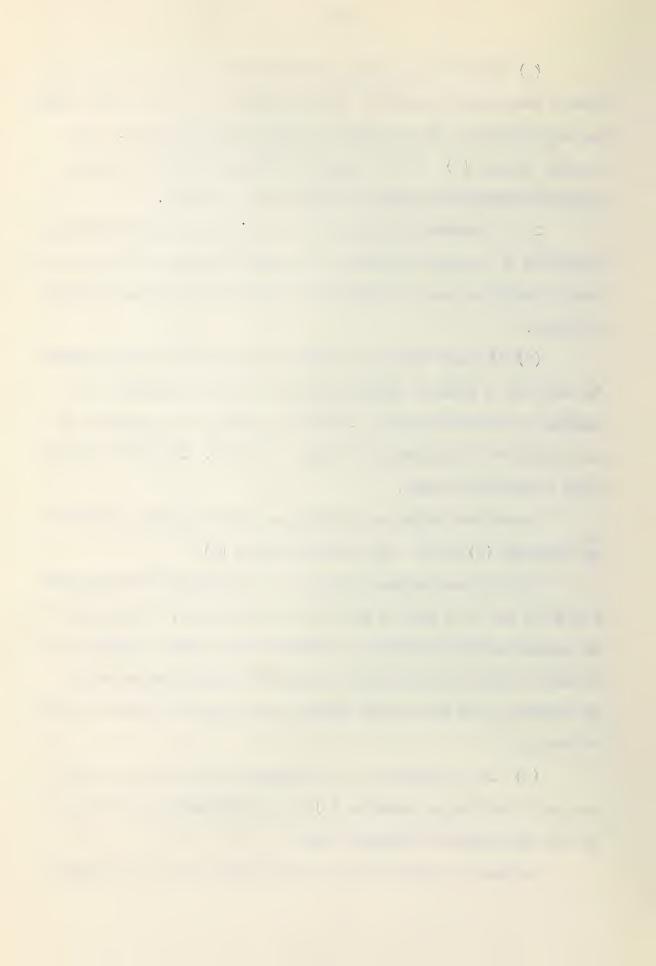
(2) The next step is to estimate the amount of labor required for each job in terms of man days and the cost of the supplies and expenses in terms of dollars. Include the names of the permanent men and the number of days each will spend on the job. The balance of the labor is additional labor.

An estimate should be prepared for each of the jobs listed as per paragraph (1) above. See attached example (2).

At this point we have listed all the operating and maintenance jobs which are to be done in the district during 1956. We also have the supporting data for each job which has been listed, consisting of the labor required for each job in terms of man days both permanent and temporary, and the cost of supplies and expenses in terms of dollars for each job.

(3) The next step is to re-arrange the time of the year when the jobs listed as per paragraph (1) will be carried out, to arrange for full employment of permanent staff.

In terms of units cost it is often cheaper to do a job during



the fall or summer months. But many jobs done during the most favourable weather conditions involve extensive use of additional labor, whereas permanent labor not fully employed may have been available during the early part of the year. Although the unit costs of the job done during the early part of the year may be higher, there will be a saving because of the use of permanent labor which would not otherwise be fully employed. On the other hand, if permanent labor is fully employed, it pays to do the job when the unit costs are lowest.

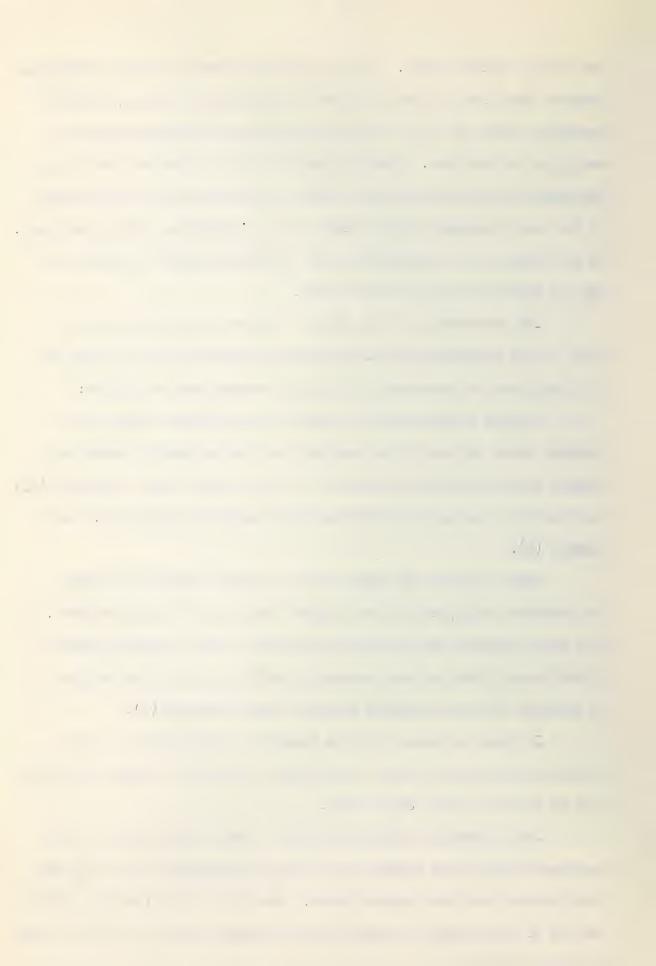
The re-arranging of the time of the year when jobs are to be done, or the re-arranging of the personnel to do the job, to budget for full employment of permanent staff can be accomplished as follows:

Prepare a sheet with the names of the permanent staff in the district along the top of the page and the jobs arranged by month and account along the left side from the list as prepared under paragraph (1). Also provide a column for additional labor along the right side. See example (3).

Under the name and opposite the job enter the number of days the permanent employee will be occupied with the job during the month. Also enter opposite the job in the additional labor column the number of additional labor man days estimated for the job. This information is obtained from the estimates prepared under paragraph (2).

In order to account for the twenty-two working days for each permanent employee each month, time spent on capital and annual vacations must be entered in the "Job" column.

The information thus compiled will reveal which members of the permanent staff in the district have been under-budgeted as to time and which members have been over-budgeted. The list of jobs (paragraph (1)) can now be re-arranged to correct this discrepancy and/or the names on the estimates changed.

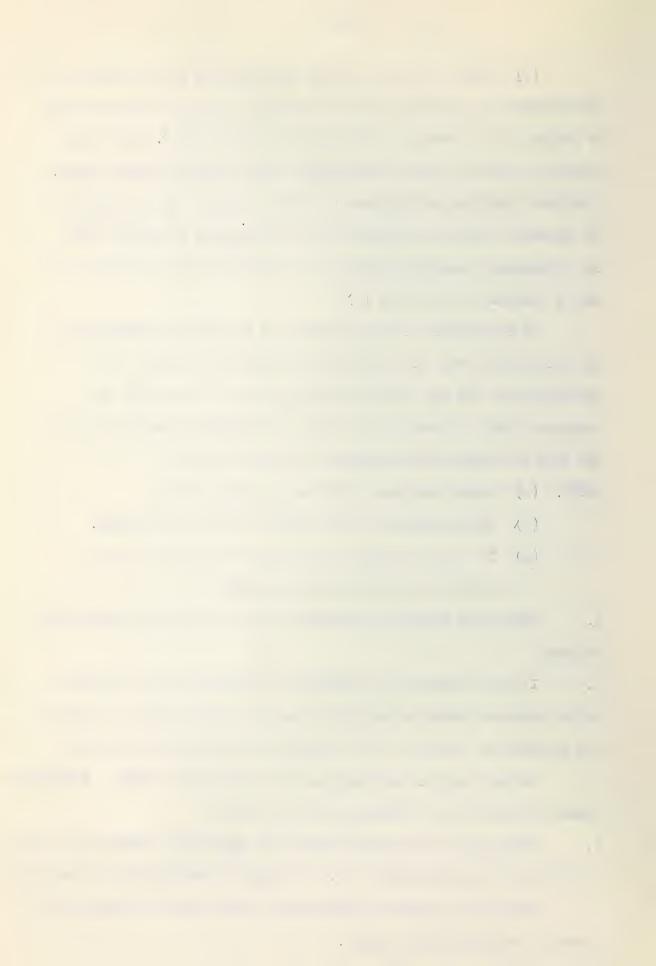


(4) After the jobs listed as per paragraph (1) have been re-arranged, the permanent labor for each job in terms of man days can be entered in the Permanent Labor column of example (1). Also enter additional labor in terms of man days in the Additional Labor column. Also enter supplies and expenses in terms of dollars in the Supplies and Expenses column as obtained from the estimates, (Paragraph (2)). The information regarding permanent and additional labor for each job can be obtained from example (3)).

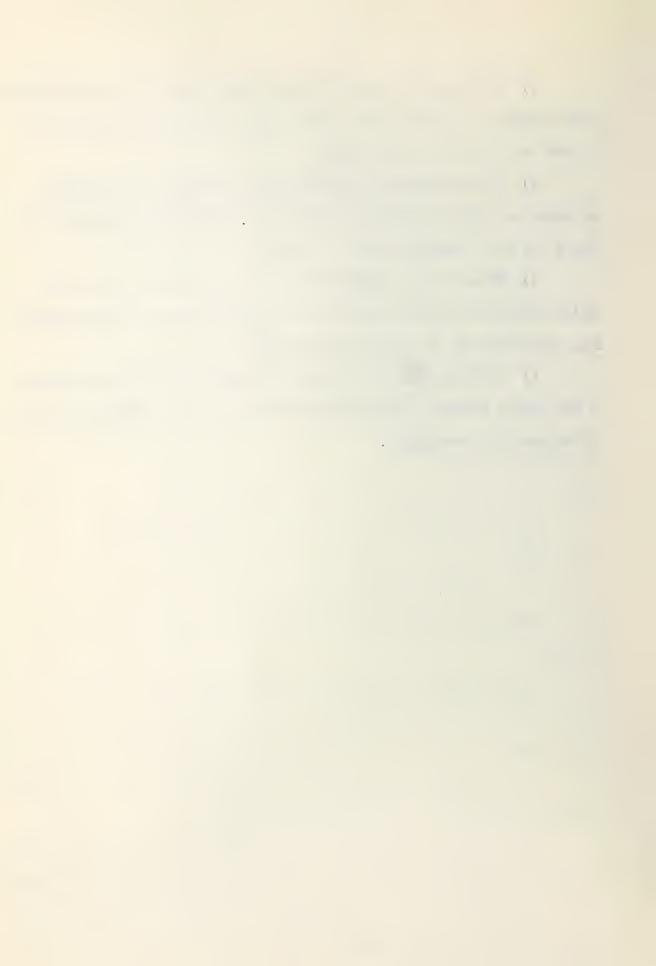
At this point the Budget Details of Operating and Maintenance for the district will be complete with the account number, the description of the job, the time when the job is to be done, the permanent labor in terms of man days, the additional labor in terms of man days and supplies and expenses in terms of dollars.

- NOTES: (a) Assume that each month has 22 working days.
 - (b) "Miscellaneous" duties should be kept to a minimum.
 - (c) The cost of supplies and expenses for each job can be arrived at by the following methods.
- 1. Where unit costs from previous jobs are available, these should be used.
- 2. If unit costs are not available an itemized list of supplies and/or expenses should be prepared to arrive at the total of supplies and expenses for each job. This applies particularly to large jobs.
- 3. Certain supplies and expenses recur from year to year. Information concerning these can be obtained from the records.
- 4. Where none of the above methods are applicable, judgment will have to be used in estimating the cost. This applies particularly to small jobs.

There are a number of advantages in this method of preparing the operating and maintenance budget.



- 1) Participating supervisors and foremen advance their familiarity with thinking in terms of a full year's activity and how to arrange work to make the best use of their staff.
- 2) All the operating and maintenance activities are recorded by districts, which, when matched with work accomplished in the districts during the year, provides a tool of control.
- 3) Those who are responsible for carrying out the work in the various districts are the ones who have submitted the plans and estimates. Thus responsibility for results can be fixed.
- 4) Participation by all levels of supervision in the development of the budget fosters a more positive attitude to their work and a feeling of membership in management.

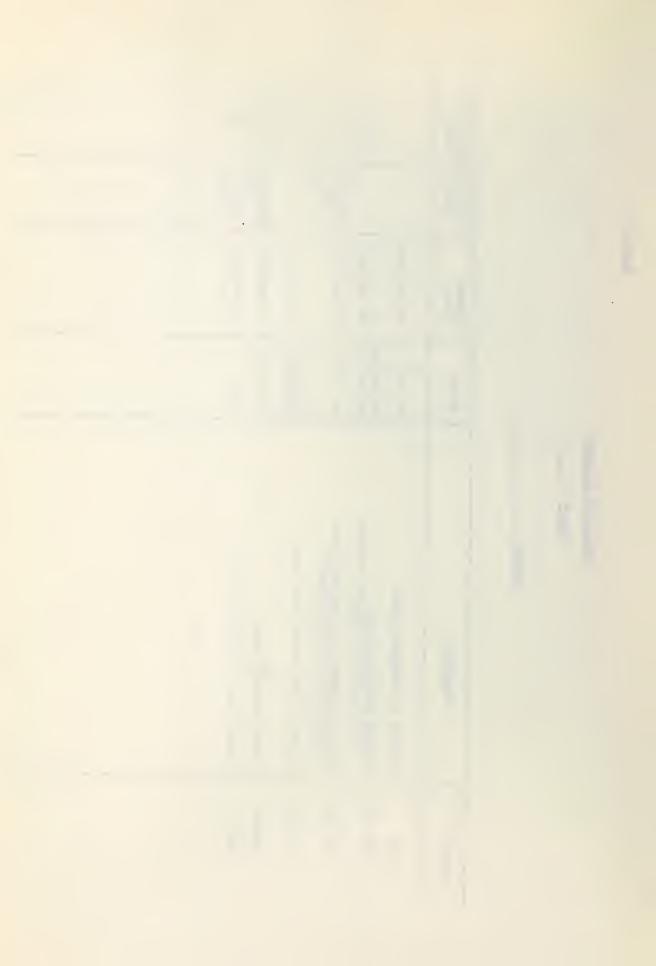


DETAILS OF ACCOUNTS

BUDGET 19

DISTRICT

1	1	-	60 -						
Supplies & Expenses		\$1,100	7,00	200	100	100			
Additional Labor		-	200 man days		22 man	days 30 man days			
Permanent Labor	132 man days	264 men days	132 man days	132 man days	22 man days	40 man days			
Months	JanDec.	Jan.Feb.Mar. Apr.Nov.Dec.	Jan Dec.	Jan.Feb.Mar. Apr.Nov.Dec.	June & July	July			
Description	Portion of timekeeper's time	Walking transmission line (Include names of permanent personnel)	Misc. jobs operating transmission line (Support this item with detail)	Inject alcohol in farm service taps	Repair fences and gates	Repair leaks on transmission line	etc.		
.ccount No.	780	780 - 785	780 - 785	780 - 785	780-785	794			



Work				EXAMPLI						
Job Order No.		Date:								
Account No 780 - 7	85									
	****	DIE TIGMTI (1 MI	, Don							
	MOI	RK ESTIMATI	S FOR:							
Install and rem	nove snow fences									
			Hours	Rate	Perm.	Add.	Supp. &			
DETAI	L		Quantity	Price	Labor	Labor	Expenses			
Names of permanent emplo	yees									
Man A					4 days					
Man B					4 days					
1 m			 			h dava				
1 Temporary				-		4 days				
Wire							\$15.00			
Meals			12				15.00			
			-	-						
				-	-					
						 				
	Totals				8 days	4 days	\$30.00			
SUMMARY:	Estimated				Actual					
Labor Perm.	Add.	Total	Per	·m.	Ad	ld.	Total			
xpenses otal Cost										
Budget Estimate:			See t	nack of s	heet for	remarks				
	Oct. and May		Date of Com	un lad la se						



EXAMPLE (3)

Man Days For Each Job Allocated In Terms Of Time and Men

MONTH	ACCT.	DESCRIPTION	NAME	ADD'L LABOR
January	780	District Transmission Jobs Portion of timekeeper's time Walking lines Inject alcohol in farm service taps etc.	Man A Man B Man C Ma 11 22 22 1	n D
	798	District Distribution Jobs Portion of timekeeper's time Inject alcohol in town regulator stations etc.	11	1
		January Totals	22 22 22 2	2
February	780	Transmission Jobs Portion of timekeeper's time Walking lines Inject alcohol in farm service taps etc.	11 22 22 1	1
	798	Distribution Jobs Portion of timekeeper's time Inject alcohol in town regulator stations etc.	11	1
		February Totals	22 22 22 2	2
March		etc.		



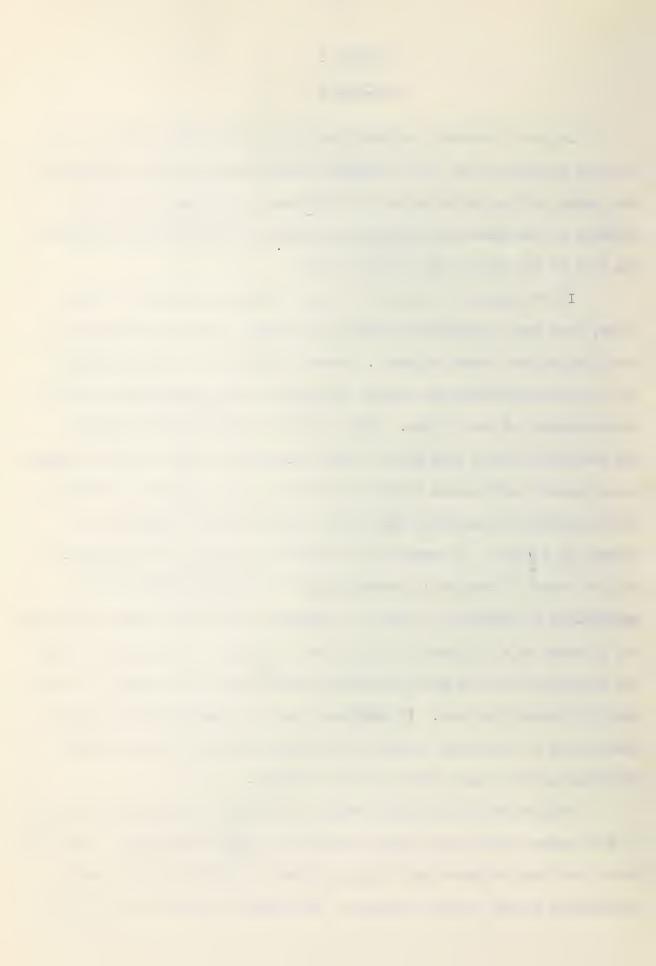
CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

The cost reduction programs described in this thesis vary in scope from the revision of an office procedure which directly affects comparatively few people, to the participation of supervisors and foremen in the preparation of the Operating and Maintenance Budget, an activity which affects the bulk of the work of the operating staff.

In the course of carrying out these studies, regardless of their scope, some basic differences between the outlook of line supervisors and staff people have become apparent. These differences, if not recognized, can cause misunderstandings between supervisors and analysts and hinder the implementation of the studies. Line supervisors emphasize the short run and naturally tend to give most of their attention to their individual department, whereas staff people look at operations in the longer run, and due to their training and nature of their work, tend to see the operations of a company as a whole. An example of an effort to overcome this difference in outlook occurs in Chapter V. Participation of line supervisors in the preparation of budgets is, in part, a campaign to familiarize them with thinking in terms of a full year's activity and to develop the concept that they are responsible for the most advantageous employment of each member of their staff throughout the year. In addition, the line supervisors are supplied with a copy of the entire budget which provides them with the opportunity of scrutinizing the other operations of the company.

Another basic difference between the outlook of line and staff people is the reasons which may be given to explain a high cost situation. The staff man's "why" may be excess labor cost, but such a reason is not the real explanation as seen by the supervisor. The supervisor wants to know why he

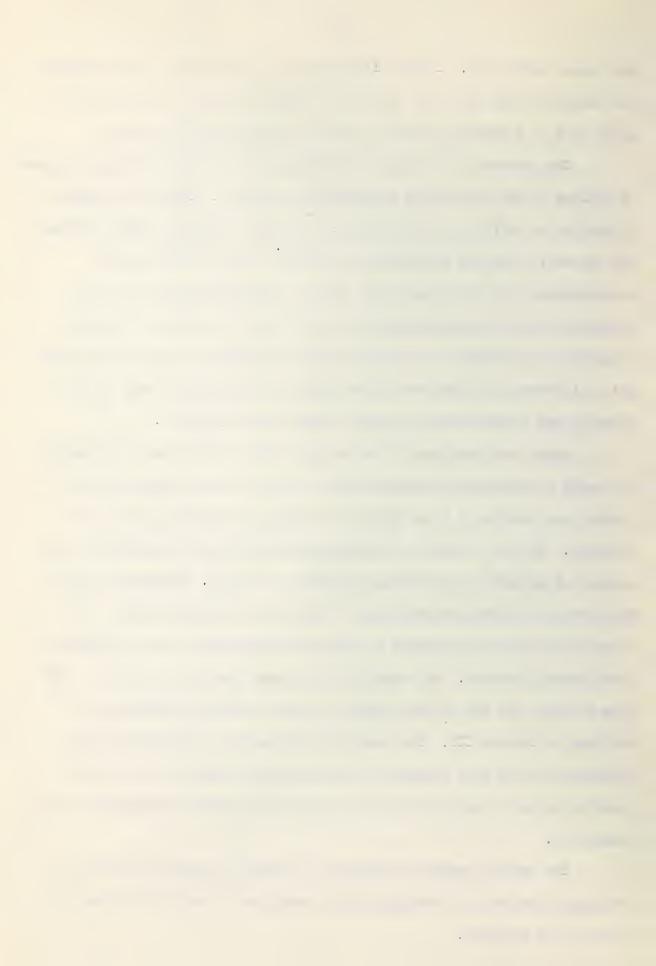


had excess labor cost. Chapter IV gets at the real reasons in the eyes of the supervisor why his labor costs were high and shows how to reduce the labor cost of installing services, which is what he wanted to know.

The detection of a high cost situation by an analyst implies a degree of failure on the part of the responsible supervisor. This is an unhappy situation, the effects of which can be attenuated by direct contact between the two men. When the supervisor is confident that he will get this consideration from staff personnel, that his embarrassment will not be broadcast up and down the hierarchy of staff and line, that he will get assistance in ferreting out the real reasons for high cost and that he will get assistance in finding out how to reduce his costs, then real understanding and co-operation can exist between the two parties.

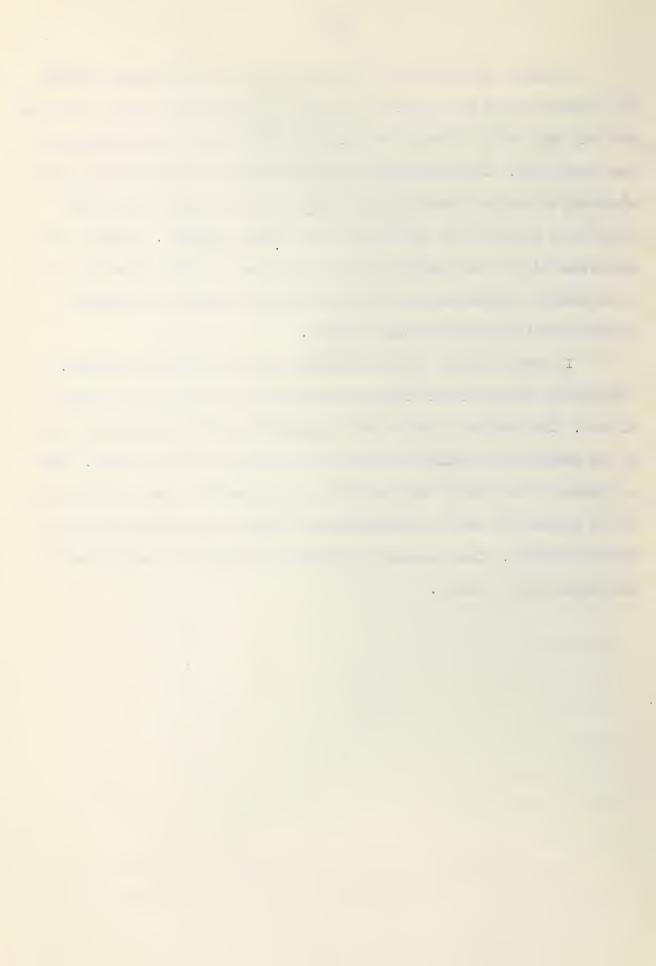
Among the functions of the analyst, then, is the need to recognize the basic differences in outlook between line and staff personnel and to conduct his studies in a way which will develop co-operation and understanding. He must be adept at working with supervisors and workmen at all levels and patient in overcoming opposition to change. He must recognize that because of their multiplicity of duties and responsibilities, line supervisors cannot be expected to make thorough studies of the operations under their direction. For example, the stores supervisor could not find time to carry out the proposed study to improve materials handling as outlined in Chapter III. The analyst should assist in implementing new procedures but he must recognize that the responsibility for putting the improved methods into effect and for administering them rests with the line supervisor.

The analyst needs to be original in thought, somewhat ingenious in working out new ways of doing old jobs, practical in outlook and have an aptitude for analysis.



Finally, the analyst must clearly recognize the difference between the traditional and the analytical approach so that he will not be lured into the path of blindly following the path of past experience or the example of some other firm. This traditional approach may lead to difficulties because operating situations change sooner or later, or the action of the other firm, while desirable for them, may not fit every situation. However, past experience within the enterprise and the experience of other firms should be given careful consideration; but this information should be subjected to analysis and included with other evidence.

In sharp contrast to the traditional is the analytical approach. Preconceived ideas are set aside and new conclusions drawn from the data at hand. The problem is broken into its parts and each part examined. Out of the detailed examination of the facts new solutions will be found. The acceptance of the plan by the operating group is eased by their participation in its preparation and the demonstration to them that all angles were carefully considered. This approach is objective, analytical, creative and in some measure sells itself.





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